# 1 he Guardian

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Hillary: First Lady ...and liar?

Guardian 2 with European weather

**Are civil servants** taking over the Universities?

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The rise of Spectator editor Frank Johnson

The tale of a Stendhalian hero

Portrait G2 pages 4/5

# Tributes and red roses as France goes into mourning for Mitterrand

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

RANCE was preparing last night for a period of solemn religious mourning for its avowedly agnostic former president, François Mitterrand, who died yesterday, aged 79, after a three-year battle against prostate cancer.

that the funeral will take live on television, will be place on Thursday — de held at the Cathedral of creed as a national day of Notre-Dame in Paris at the

The former Socialist president's funeral and burial, fter a three-year battle ident's funeral and burial, who was president for two and their daughter, Mazar-ine, in a family grave, will take terms — from 1981 until place in Jarnac, the small May last year — was an of Aswan. He then cele-

remembrance by the Elysée same time as the family

To the end, he had enjoyed a double private life. Georges-Marc Benamou, a family friend and biographer, said Mitterrand had spent Christmas with his companion. Anne Pingeot,

roses were laid by ordinary where he was born and of citizens at Socialist party which he said, in his heart, headquarters at the Invalides, it was announced A solemn mass, broadcast

A solemn mass, broadcast

To the end, he had en
Paris at 10.55am yesterday. his wife, Danielle, their the functioning of our institutions, he guarded the his desk at 8.30am.

Christophe and close famdemocratic process with selight at the functioning of our institotizens at Socialist party which he said, in his heart, he had never left.

A solemn mass, broadcast ily at his country home in Latche, south-west France. After paying his respects,

President Jacques Chirac used his new year address to the media to pay homage to his predecessor. "During his 14 years [in power], Mr Mitterrand wrote an impor-tant page in the history of

renity," he said.

Leaders from around the world paid tribute to Mitterrand, who founded the modern French Socialist party in 1971. John Major said he had made an "outstanding contribution to public life, particularly in France, throughout the

many echoed the view that Not everyone praised Mitterrand's greatest him. One Parisian, a achievement was his commitment to a united Europe. aged 70, paid tribute to Mit-Yvette Ouge, a retired case owner, aged 63, had

terrand's leadership while feeling "alienated by his ideas". Another man called "He was an enormous pil-lar of both politics and intellectual life. He helped along the modernisation of

# Push for women MPs illegal

Martin Walnwright Clare Dyer and

ABOUR'S controversial womenonly shortlist policy was torpedoed unitkely forum of heralding months of possible legal battles over one of the party's most radical internal

A three-strong panel ruled that confining the chance to fight parliamentary seats to one sex was contrary to the 1975 Sex Discrimination Act, however well-intentioned the aim of increasing the total of women MPs. Of Labour's 270

MPs, only 38 are women. The party is likely to appeal, but has frozen selection in nine seats with womenonly shortlists until it receives the full written judgment in the next two weeks. Thirty-four women candidates have been chosen by the party under the policy. A question mark hangs over a further five constituencies three in the North and York-shire region, one in South Wales and one in Leicester where the process of selecting a woman candidate was due

If Labour appeals, the case would take 12 months to reach the Employment Appeal Tribunal unless the tri-bunal agreed to expedite it. Further appeals would be possible to the Court of Appeal and House of Lords, and t would be open to any appellate court to refer the case to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, delaying a

of new constituencies, seats due to be vacated by sitting the complaints of both applimembers, and those considered most winnable were set side for women candidates. The tribunal's chairman, John Prophet, who presided over the three-day tussle be-tween James Goudie QC. chairman of the Society of chairman of the Society of sion and confirmed that the party was considering an ap-it-yourself presentation of a peal. We have proceeded it-yourself presentation of a Ruskin College graduate and a pony-tailed parish council-lor, said the law had clearly been breached by the policy.

Feith & Cambourse Candy Athe

Construit
Amber Valley Judy Stallaber
Litton South Mergerat More
Waleyn Halfrett Melbride Lohreit
Milton Keynos SW Phyllis Startony

Lincole difficient Mecron Erevelan Lie Blageman.

Worth West
Liverpool Gension direct Engine Liverpool Gension direct Engine Liverpool Gension direct Engine Liverpool Florence and Control Co

regard the motives of the pol-icy as laudable, in wanting to increase the number of women MPs from under 10 per cent," he said.

"But that has no relevance to the issue. The Government passed the Sex Discrimina-

cants, that they have been un-lawfully discriminated against on the grounds of their sex, are well founded." Tom Sawyer, general secre-tary of the Labour Party, said he was surprised at the deci-

"It may be many would

result still further.

Under the policy, which was formally introduced at Labour's 1993 conference, half bility to enforce it. We conclude therefore that

were still recuperating, hav-

ing spent most of the past

week in Muscat being lav-

backed the "Emily's List" campaign to get more seats for women, said she was bit-

The Conservatives and Liberal Democrats seized on the ruling as evidence of an "un-

Tory deputy chairman Michael Trend said: "Labour's platant exercise in sexism and political correctness has now been rejected by an industrial tribunal. They should reopen the selection in all those constituencies where all-wome Diana Maddock, Liberal Democrat women's affairs spokeswoman, said: "Parlia-ment would greatly benefit

tive action rather than post-tive discrimination." The two victors, long-standing Labour party members Peter Jepson, aged 45, and Roger Dyas-Elliott, 49, were jubliant after the vindication of hours of research followed

from having more women

by patient argument at the Mr Jepson, of Feltham Middlesex, was debarred from standing for the London seats of Brentford and Isleworth, and Regent's Park and Kensington North Mr Dyas-

Nottinghamshire, was turned away from Keighley. pensation or redress, saying that winning their point was sufficient reward. Mr Jepson said the verdict put Labour back on the rails laid down in



terly disappointed.

but the way to achieve that is through a programme of posi-

Elliott, of Carlton in Lindrick

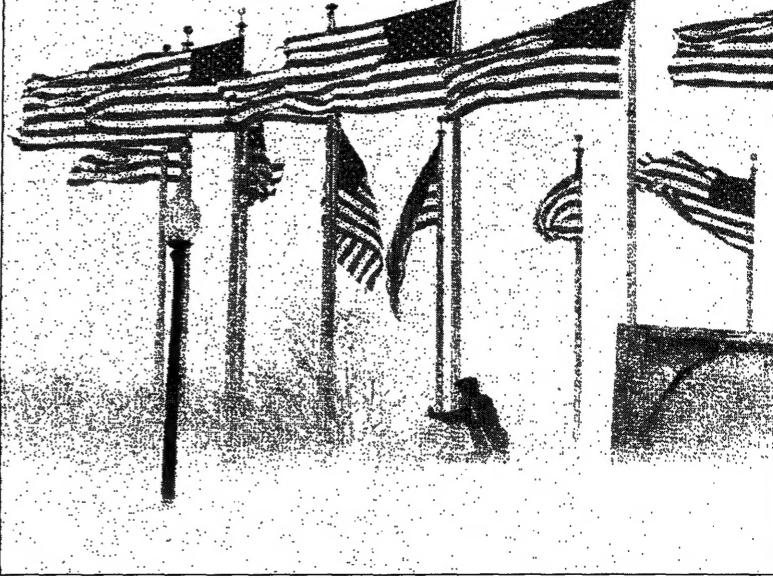
They declined to claim comthroughout in the belief we have been acting in accordance with the law." he said.

The shadow health secretically continued the said of the verdict put Labour back on the rails laid down in leader Tony Blair's new Clause Four.

The men received watches

worth £8,000 each, and Miss

Stott jewellery of equal value.



One citizen beat the heavy snow in Washington by getting around Washington Mount on cross-country skis Sketch, page 2PHOTOGRAPH: CHARLES TASNAD

## Schools face court test

Parents will challenge new pupil
selection rules, minister warned
"If such measures were introduced, alongside other proposals in the draft circular, grant-maintained schools

John Carvel Education Editor

TATE schools were warned last night that they could be taken to court by aggrieved parents if they change to the selective admissions system proposed yesterday by Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary.

As the Guardian disclosed

As the Guardian disclosed last week, her draft circular would scrap the guidance which has stopped most head teachers interviewing pro-spective pupils and their parents as a form of covert

social screening.
The document would also remove the restriction limiting open selection by compre-hensive schools to 10 per cent of places for pupils showing special aptitude for subjects such as music, art, drama, sport or technology.

not everyone is the Sultan of More tokens of the sultan's common More tokens of the sultan's partitude were bestowed on Yesterday, members of the Manchester-based orchestra lier and Sir Edward Downes, Manchester-based orchestra lie

ing in mind that the largely

bloodless take over had been

orchestrated by the British.

It was now "likely to be possible" for any school to be able to choose about 15 per cent of its intake according to pupils' general ability, with-out reference to ability in any

out reference to ability in any particular subject. Schools could switch to the new system without having to go through the "cumbersome" procedure of publishing their plans for local consultation Mrs Shephard said.

She was warned by Local Schools Information, a coun-

cil-funded advisory group, that this new guidance would clearly infringe legislation obliging schools to get gov-ernment approval for any significant change of character.
"It is almost inevitable that schools adopting Mrs Shephard's approach will be taken to court by aggrieved parents," said Martin Rogers, the group's director. "We have taken legal advice and it is likely the parents would win

and a £5 million manor house

Part of the programme of

music by Beethoven, Rossini,

Tchaikovsky and Elgar,

selected by the sultan, has sultan's been preserved for posterity. sat on it.

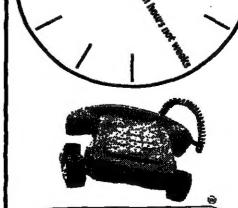
near Hanley-on-Thames.

would be free to introduce such changes without even the need to obtain the consent of the secretary of state."
There would be progressively reduced opportunities for parents to get their children into local schools. Mrs Shephard's officials ac-

knowledged the circular might have to be tested in the courts, but the Government's lawyers thought the increased selection would not amount to a significant change in the character of a school.

"The new circular has cut a swath through the forest of regulation and rigid bureau-cracy surrounding admissions arrangements," Mrs Shephard said. All schools should be able to decide for themselves whether interviewing parents and children should play a part in the ad-Continued on page 2, col 3

likely the parents would win. | page 5



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LEEDS

NOT everyone has the wherewithal to fly 101 members of the BBC Philhar-

monic Orchestra more than 1.000 miles in a personal jet at

Alan Watidns and

Edward Pilkington

Comment 9 Financial news 11

1,000 miles in a personal jet at tan's expense in a hotel de-a cost of £500,000 just to enjoy scribed by one string player a private concert. But, then, as "staggering in its huxury". Some such largesse, the BBC Philharmonic personal jet at tan's expense in a hotel de-tan's expense in a hotel de-scribed by one string player the BBC Philharmonic per-formed two concerts to mark ish ambassador to Oman, Arts 8/9 Health 12/13

Sultan of Oman splashes out to tune of £500,000 for private concert by 101-strong British orchestra

and the pianist Kathryn Stott. priate touch, perhaps, bear-



orchestra has made a tape of

the anthem to replace the

only previous recording in ex-

broken 40 years ago when the

sultan's father accidentally

Cartoons 15 Radio 18 \*\*\* Education 10/11

### Washington sketch

# City in a whiter shade of pale



Jonathan Freedland

SUALLY people in Washington get caught in a "blizzard of allegations" or hit by a "storm of controversy." They demand a freeze in defence spending, and report a coolness in the

Well, now they have the real thing. Washington is covered in a blanket not of news coverage or official denials but of snow. The record-breaking blizzard which started gusting across the eastern United States late on Saturday night has hit deepest in Washing-ton, and the result is spectacular.

Now every house is the White House, rendered into various shades of pale from the largest fall of white stuff since 1922. Everywhere is bright, the snow so thick and the temperature so cold that it has refused to turn into the brown slush so characteristic of the British winter. Instead, it lies in thick quilts still

crunchy underfoot.
The streets have witnessed a pedestrian takeover, as people ignore the pavements and clear a path right down the middle of the road. Once noisy thoroughfares are eerily quiet, as walkers bury their faces in scarves and stare only at their feet.

In a city renowned for its workaholics, some have tried everything to get to their desks. Whistling down 17th street yesterday morning was a man on cross-country skis, clutching a briefcase. He had to swerve to avoid the Acura that had wound up, wheels spinning, in the middle of the street. The driver had just got

out and given up. Most have not even tried. With snow falling at a rate of two inches an hour, local authorities urged people to stay home. All government depart ments were closed, except the Supreme Court — too lofty to be deterred from its mission by a few snowflakes. The

funny thing was, this was the day the government was suposed to re-open after three reeks of budget wrangling ad kept it shut.

Suddenly the workers who had complained so loudly seemed oddly content. "This is the kind of shutdown we have been waiting for," heamed Lars Hasselblad-Torres, one of a crowd on Calvert

Street using the weather as a chance to dig out his favourite childhood toy: his toboggan. Political life was frozen in its tracks. Newspapers were not delivered, speeches had to be cancelled. In one downtown office building, all the pres-

sure groups and lobbying organisations were absent. Only the Guardian had shown With all the airports closed candidates shy of exposure were handed the perfect ex-cuse. Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole was ex-

pected at a dinner in New

boundness and addressed the gathering by phone. The news media have adapted quickly, offering the nation the diversion of usu-ally dour White House corre spondents appearing on air in an absurd array of anoraks

Hampshire, whose primary is next month. He claimed snow

and skiwear. The real winners have been the suburban owners of four-wheel drive vehicles. All year round they suffer insults from envious friends. Now they have the last laugh. Yesterday local radio was asking all Range Rover owners to volunteer to take stranded doctors and nurses to work.

Restarateurs hardy enough to stay open have done a grand trade. Eateries usually ignored were full yesterday, as people short of food had nowhere else to go (many of the 24-hour stores were boarded up). "Everyone gets in a really good mood," said Andy Shallal, owner of the Luna dinerhappily snow-free, underground by the Dupont Circle metro station. He had noticed

how no-one was complaining about slow service. "Nothing matters on a snowy day."

Best of all are the nights.
The snow is so white that it reflects the moonlight, enveloping the whole city in a clear, bright glow. Soon enough the politics will start up again, but for a few days Washington has looked like an enchanted city.

# Rifkind to press China over orphan scandal

Andrew Higgins in Hong Kong

HE Foreign Secretary.

Malcolm Rifkind, will
ask China today to resond to accusations of murderous neglect and abuse in state-run orphanages made in a documentary on Channel 4

tonight.

Speaking yesterday in Hong
Kong on the eve of his departure for Beijing, Mr Rifkind
brushed aside complaints from the Chinese embassy in London that the broadcast could poison diplomatic

relations.

"We are not responsible for television programmes," he said, clearly frustrated that arguments between human rights groups and Beijing threaten to distract attention threaten to distract attention from preparations for Hong Kong's return to China on

July 1 next year.
Tonight's Channel 4 documentary, Return to the Dying Rooms, draws on evidence compiled by the New York-based group Human Rights Watch in a lengthy report released on Sunday. China has rejected the report as a fabrication and took foreign journalists yesterday to a Shanghai orphanage cited by Iuman Rights Watch.

China will also be dis-pleased by Mr Rifkind's remark at a lunch with Brit-ish and other foreign businessmen that nobody in Hong Kong could be expected to welcome the territory's change of status from British colony to Special Administrative Region of China.

Asked about a survey which shows 70 per cent of the territory's population would prefer to see Hong Kong left unchanged, he said:

LIGHTHOUSE keep-er yesterday

side killing a group of elite Northern Ireland security

David Murchie said he

could not see the helicopter because of thick fog but dur-ing the two and a half min-utes that he heard its flight it

became apparent the giant craft did not have the altitude

Mr Murchie was giving evi-

dence on the opening day of

Chinook crash

Ten members of the RUC Special

Branch, raine army intellig officers, six MIS officers and

when an RAF Chinool

Benn na Lice on

er yesterday de-scribed the last

Lighthouse keeper tells of last seconds before crash killed 29



100 per cent because the status quo has been so

An unprecedented question and answer session with Mr Rifkind in Hong Kong's Legislative Council yesterday was attended by only half of the assembly's 60 members, a measure of Britain's increasing irrelevance to the future.

The members who did at to hand frightened people

flight from Belfast to a secu-

George, near Inverness, when it hit a hill on the southern

tip of the Mull of Kintyre on

June 2 1994. Ten RUC special branch of-

ficers, nine army intelligence officers, six MI5 agents, and

four RAF crewmen were

killed in one of the world's

worst helicopter accidents.

Mr Murchie. a lighthouse

keeper for 25 years and a fly-

ing enthusiast, told Paisley

sheriff court he heard the

rotors of the Mark II Chinook

from his living room. He

am suprised it is not tend grilled Mr Rifkind an over to a regime from which to grant full British passports and demanded that London all these decades?" take action to block China's plans to scrap the elected assembly in 1997 and water down the Bill of Rights.

"Do you not have a con-science?" asked Emily Lau.

aircraft's approach for two

clear the high ground," he said. Racing to the other side

of his lighthouse, Mr Murchie

heard "a dull thud" high up

on the 1,400-metre fog-bound

Kintyre.
"It was followed by a

whooshing noise; within

three seconds there was

Questioned by John Mitch-ell, QC for the Crown, he said he had noted "nothing unto-

ward" about the sounds com-ing from the Chinook's two

engines. Mr Mitchell asked whether

Beion na Lice 428 metres

the lighthouse. It crashed just before 6pm killing all the

silence." he said.

Beinn na Lice on the Mull of

gers and crew of the RAF heli- | became concerned as I knew

copter, which had been on a | that he hadn't the altitude to

RAF Chinook heard flying to disaster

"We all have consciences

and we are all seeking to do the best we can in very diffi-cult circumstances," Mr cult circumstances," Mr Rifkind replied. He said Britain could not rule out the possibility of taking China to an

only 539 days away, it had lit-tie leverage over Beljing. After three years of polem-ics over political reforms introduced by Chris Patten, the governor of Hong Kong, there are some signs that Sino-Brit-

ish relations are improving. Mr Rifkind is due to meet President Jiang Zemin and Li Peng, the prime minister. The row over orphanas

new source of friction. "People are concerned about the latest report and it's likely the subject will be men-tioned," Mr Rifkind said esterday.

"It is important to bear the of view.

Gold calms China's nerves,

### First night

# Backstage rows, on-stage realism | Scribed the last seconds of a Chinook helicopter flight before it ploughed into a Scottish hill-

Michael Billington | ness of the costumes at the Café Momus meant that the

La Bohème Opera Bastille, Paris

ONATHAN Miller's new production of La Bohème at the Bastille has not been without its problems. Roberto Alagna, the star-tenor who sings Rodolfo in one of the two separate casts, last week caused a storm by refusing to take a curtain call on account of "differences with the

He went on to claim that he will never sing at the Bastille again. But, whatever the temperamental problems backstage, the old piece comes across - certainly with the alternative cast that I saw with remarkable freshness.

Puccini's opera is, of course, set in Paris in 1830. Miller updates it to roughly 1930. Posters of Jean Harlow in Hell's Angels and of René Clair's Sous les Toits de Paris decorate the walls of the Bohemian garret, and Dante Ferret ti's designs are clearly based on the realistic photographs of Andre Kertesz: the Cafe Momus is a slightly shabby, sub-fusc affair, and the streetwalls in the third act are decorated with peeling pictures of a famous silhouetted Dubonnet advertisement.

As Baz Luhrmann's 1950sset version, shown on TV over Christmas, proved, La Boheme is an opera that can withstand updating. But for the first two acts Miller's production slightly hung fire. Crucial plot points, such as the fact that Rodolfo deliberately hides Mimi's latchkey, got lost on the large Bastille stage. And the prevailing grey- joyed by a packed house.

principals were submerged in the general melée: only with the arrival of Valerie Millot's Musetta, hoisting her skirt up her thighs to attract Marcello's attention, did the production begin to match the mu-

sic's exuberance. But Miller's realistic emphasis on the poverty, cold and deprivation of Bohemian life pays superb dividends in the last two acts. His strength as always, lies in individual psychology; and the third-act encounter of Rodolfo and Mimi in a freezing suburban street reeking of decay was filled with exactly the right mixture of guilt, sadness and hopeless optimism.

In particular, the Chilean class Mimi not just in her her impending death. The

mortality... Miller's view of the opera is deliberately unromantic and low-key: even the occasional raffish outbursts of high spirits seem a way of keeping poverty and misery at bay. But although I feel the production would benefit from a smaller house, it was sensitively conducted by Louis Langree and well sung throughout. Roerto Aronica may be no Alagna but he brought a ring-ing Italian tone to Rodolfo and Gallardo-Domas, who goes on to sing the role at the Met, endowed Mimi with a Butterfly-like poignancy and grace. A good occasion, clearly en-

### Police chief attacks violence as three Bradford officers wounded

Martin Wainwright

APOLICE chief with three officers in hospital after a weekend of "unspeakable" urban violence yesterday attacked the "degradation of some parts of society".

But in spite of the use of firearms in one of the attacks, in which a constable almost bled to death. West York | an armed robbery.

shire's chief constable Keith Helliwell said that arming officers was not the answer except in specific. dangerous circumstances.

His angry comments came after PC Neil Dalby, aged 36. became the third Bradford officer to be seriously injured at the weekend. He was shot in the thigh as he and a colleague chased four men after

soprano, Cristina Gallardo-Domas, showed she is a world sweetness of tone but in her sudden shocked awareness of final act was also overwhelming in the characters' embarrassment in the face of Mimi's

### New school selection rules face court test

Continued from page 1 missions procedure and if there should be a home-school contract imposing responsibilities on the parents.

At the time of the accident

on the cliff top but up to 2 miles at sea level

visibility was down to 20yds

Estelle Morris, Labour's education spokeswoman, said the Government was "undermining parental choice by allowing head teachers to vet parents and pupils rather than letting parents pick als were a sop to the Govern-

Peter Smith, general secre-tary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, said the proposals ran directly counter to the Prime Minister's vision of a classless society. "It is breathtaking that | Association of School-

John Major of all people should be backing something that will almost certainly turn into selection by social

The result was tantamount

Beltasi airport to a

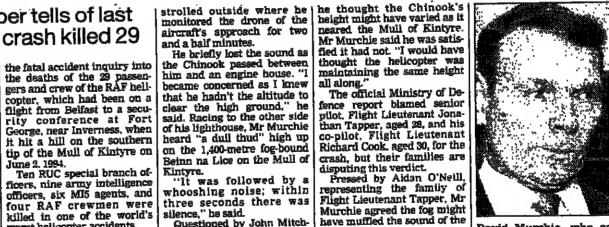
to reintroduction of the 11plus by the back door, he said. Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the proposment's hard-line supporters. They will further encourage schools to choose parents rather than parents choosing

schools," he said. Nigel de Gruchy, general

masters/Union of Women Teachers, said the announce ment "heralded selection on social grounds, accent and the size of the family car. Perhaps it is a machiavellian attempt to make the 11-plus appear at-

tractive in comparison. David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said Mrs Shephard was hitting the wrong target.
"She should have enabled

popular and oversubscribed schools to expand to meet demand rather than concentrate on the needs of the few to the secretary of the National potential detriment of the



"This is the first opportu nity for the people mos affected by the crash to ask the questions they want " said Aidan Canavan, a solicitor representing the relatives of the passengers. The helicopter's manufacturers, Boeing, and the Ministry of Defence are also repre-

David Murchie, who gave evidence to the inquiry

will be £250,000. The pilots' families hope to demonstrate there was some link between cal and computer malfunctions which had earlier forced testing on Mark II Chinooks to be suspended. Hector Lamont, an assis-

sented at the inquiry, whose findings will play a large part



tant lighthouse keeper, told in determining levels of the inquiry he had noticed an orange flash in the rear view The ministry has been criti- mirror of his Land Rover as cised for indicating that the he returned to the headland maximum individual payout after a shopping trip.

At first he had thought it was the helicopter's naviga-tion light. But a few minutes later he met Mr Murchie who told him the aircraft had

Three Glasgow university would have died instantaneously from multiple injuries. Tests on both pilots showed no evidence of heart disease, drugs or alcohol.

A radar controller at Belfast airport read out a tranreceived from the helicopter as it left the military zone sur-

rounding RAF Aldergrove. We now have the zone boundary; going on route — good day," the unnamed pilot radioed to Sinead Swift. The nessage was timed at 5.46pm. 10 minutes before the Chinook hit the remote Kintyre

Ms Swift explained that the aircraft was operating under visual flight rules which give the pilot discretion as to his aircraft's height. If he had been using instruments, the Chinook would have been ordered to fly at "at least 3,000 feet, depending on terrain". The inquiry, which is expected to last up to four weeks, continuestoday.

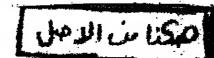
# **CAN YOU HANDLE** THE TRUTH BEHIND THE

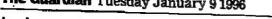
### The life of Jesus after the Crucifixion

Utilising clues found within the Dead Sea Scrolls, Barbara Thiering, author of Utilising clues found within the description of the bestselling Jesus The Man, has deciphered the disturbing last book of the New the bestselling Jesus the myth and reveal a remarkable history of early Christianity. Jesus's long political career after surviving the Crucifixion is described, as is the reality represented by such symbols as The Beast whose number is 666, The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, and many more.

lesus of the Apocalypse is a breathtaking scholarly masterplece no-one can afford to miss.

OUT NOW IN DOUBLEDAY HARDCOVER





# Labour leader ends Asian tour with praise from Lee Kuan Yew but chorus of mockery from Tories

# Blair a Singapore success

Micholas Cumming-Bruce nd Michael White

ONY Blair flew back to London from his whirlwind Asian tour last night pursued by praise from the creators of Singapore's economic miracle and condemnation for his vision of a "stakeholder soci-

ety" from the self-styled cre-ators of Britain's. While Harry Lee Kuan Yew. Singapore's former prime minister, heaped plaudits on the Labour leader — much as be once did for Harold Wilson and then Margaret Thatcher - Michael Heseltine led a cabinet hit squad targetting Mr Blair as an outdated corporatist.

"Of course I'm impressed," citizens "very much reflects Mr Lee answered journalists my own political philosophy."

as he awaited Mr Blair's arrival for a dinner in the co-lonial finery of Raffles Hotel to mark the end of the Labour leader's visit. "He is young, energetic, doing well within the Labour Party and the

The comments from an Asian leader, who has retained an almost perma-nent grip on power for 30 years, gave an extra fillip to the leader of a party that until recently seemed condemned to almost permanent opposition. But Mr Lee warned that what he called Britain's natural party of reform would take time to achieve its goals. Mr Blair, who has spent five days trying to impress on Asia the new thinking in Labour, told reporters that Mr Lee's success in building a society encompassing all its

### Warming words from a 'nasty little man'

On Mrs Thatcher, 1985: "The refusal to bend, to tempo-rise, to be deflected from your declared objectives, have become your hallmarks of firm government.

ister, 1969: "I have had my fill of the sordid and mor-

Given Singapore's social au-thoritarianism, which coexists with a higher per capits income than Britain's, such remarks may further alarm Labour traditionalists.

Last night most remained quiet, leaving John Prescott to defend his leader's battle to present ideas for discussion while ministers abused them. Mr Prescott's predecessor as

you . . . the press have delib-erately worked up hysteria great people reduced them selves to mediocrity by amongst the PLP, until they look like Gaderine swine levelling down." plunging headlong to

On the welfate state: "We have studiously avoided its

Beckett, also supported Mr Blair's remarks. lowed by a dinner attended by Singapore's political clite, Mr Blair placed long-term unem-ployment at the top of his agenda, with a pledge to bring back into mainstream society

in the right party to bring about reforms' As ministers in struggled to obey John Ma-jor's edict to stop squabbling

practices. We saw how a

ping: "A great man."

Henry Kissinger on Lec: "A nasty little man."

sour, suggested Mr Blair

could turn out to be her natu-ral successor. The role of reformer probably came more easily to him "because he is

Mr Lee, who came to ad-mire Mrs Thatcher after and Michael Portillo said that Labour's reformism turned the Conservatives had cre- Will Hutton, page 9

ated the real stakeholder soci ety in the 1980s when they sold shares, utilities and council houses

"Labour have fought us every step of the way. Who would be their stakeholders? The trade unions and the left wing-dominated single issue pressure groups," asked the Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Portillo said: "If this is his new idea, he's 16 years out

Mr Lee appeared to have lit-tle doubt that Mr Blair is heading for No. 10. But likening Britain to a 500,000-ton oil tanker that could not be eas-ily turned, he thought change needed time. "If he can within two election terms get it on course, then whoever takes over will get a much more competitive Britain."

### The best stories are in *The* Guardian

**Myra Hindley:** my life, my guilt, my weakness

Daily Mail **BBC TV** 

Daily Express



### Selection in schools to return

Followed up by: Independent

Financial Times **BBC TV** 



### January 4 **UK** bows to Saudis

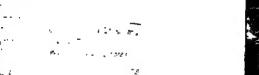


### January 6

### Arms bosses' secret plot

Sunday Telegraph BBC TV









Gone . . . Mr Floyd, relaxing in traditional style on holiday

# TV chef Floyd in a stew as receivers called in The best writers

Business runs up £500,000 debts for man dogged by crises, reports **Geoffrey Gibbs** 

LOYD'S Inn (Some-) times) say the signs on publicity blurbs for the Maltsters, the renowned pub and restau-rant complex overlooking Bow Creek on the tidal reaches of the River Dart in South Devon.

Not yesterday it wasn't. While TV chef Keith Floyd was holidaying abroad with was noncaying abroad with his new wife, men with briefcases, tape measures and calculators were crawl-ing over the property in the village of Tuckenhay trying to put a value on the busi-ness which has fallen into

receivership.

It is the latest in a series of financial and personal disasters that have left the chef with egg, scrambled, all over his face.

Mr Floyd, who became a household name through television programmes such as Floyd on Fish, took over the Maltsters, then an ordinary riverside pub, in 1989 and has spent heavily developing it into one of only about 12 restaurants in the UK to boast the cov-eted Michelin red M rating.

Menu Gourmand, prepared by head chef Chris-tophe Vincent and his staff.



The Maltsters restaurant in South Devon, visited by the receivers yesterday

lobster capuccino and saddle of roe deer at £48 a often seen mingling with head. A more modest four course set meal at the pub's "canteen" costs £27, while to the place. "The food was treateen" costs £27, while to the place. "The food was treatent to the place." The food was treatent to the place. the chef's special of fillet of beef in truffle sauce can be had for £18 and hand sauce can be had for £18 and house champagne for £27 a bottle. One occasional customer

tophe Vincent and his staff. described the receivership cess, heavy investment in offers delicacies such as a great shame, saying redeveloping the pub and a

and restaurant have been a gastronomic and social suc-

former winery on the site into a French-style auberge left the business in hot financial water. Mr Floyd had previously owned sev-eral small restaurants in Bristol but ran into finan-cial problems with them. A man of robust views, he has never baulked at admit-ting his failures, whether in marriage or business.

Last year he said: "Why can't people be honest? I'm always honest. In fact, I wish I could be a lot more dishonest sometimes as everyone takes advantage of me. I've got massive debts and people are al-

year, is expected to be abroad for about three

teur cooks is unlikely to give up his trademark— the quick slurp.
He once said: "I don't drink any more or any less debts and people are al-ways wanting 10 or 20 per cent of everything I have. Lawyers and accountants always add an extra nought that kind of workload."

workforce.

"The company failed principally because of trading losses incurred during the development phase of the business," Mr Swift said. Management efforts to turn the business round had failed as funds ran out.

Mr Floyd, aged 52, who Mr Floyd, aged 52, who married fourth wife Teresa Smith, a food stylist, last

weeks. It is understood he asked his bankers to ap-point receivers to run the business late last week. Whatever happens, the man who has endeared himself to millions of ama-

for me. Why? Because I'm called Floyd or something." Duncan Swift, the ac-countant leading the

receivership team from cor-porate recovery experts Grant Thornton, said yes-terday that debts were

"£500,000 or more". He emphasised that the inn remained open and that

he was looking to sell the business as a going con-cern. But he could not rule

out the possibility of reduc-ing the scope of the opera-

than anyone else I know. In the last 10 years, I have written 14 books, made



### Mob fury after plane crash kills 250 in Zaire | Maxwell jury sent to hotel after failing to reach verdict

Matthew Tostevin in Klashasa

AN ANGRY crowd tried to lynch four Russian crew members after a cargo plane they were piloting crashed hospital morgues in the town yesterday into a crowded So I don't think there are less market in Kinshasa, the capi-tal of Zaire, killing more than 250 people.

Zaire's state prosecutor, Mukenge Blsumbule, said Mukenge Bisumbule, said police took the Russians, who survived the crash with only minor injuries, into custody after saving them from the mob at a city clinic. Police were looking for two other crew members, a Ukrainian and a Zairean.

crash were women and children in the crowded city centre. Red Cross workers joined to donate blood. — Reuter.

tre market of corrugated iron soldiers and local volunteers and wooden shacks. "We Wearing plastic bags on their found 217 bodies at the market of corrugated iron soldiers and local volunteers and local volunteers and local volunteers and local volunteers." ket," said Vincent Nicod of the International Committee of the Red Cross. "I think there are 32 more bodies at

than 250 people in all." Witnesses saw rescuers pull bodies from the wreck of the Antonov aircraft and the mar-

off from nearby Ndolo airport, ploughed through the market for more than 100 yards before it came to a halt, belching flames and clouds of black smoke. A fire crew from Most of the victims of the Ndolo tried to dampen the

Wearing plastic bags on their hands, they picked up bodies and severed limbs. The exact

number of wounded will be difficult to determine. Gothie Mukoka, who was at the airport when the plane took off, said: "The aircraft tried to take off but it only got a few metres off the ground then it disappeared and there

was an explosion. Airport sources said the plane be-longed to Africa Airlines, a private Zairean company. A Zairean air force colonel who was also at the airport

said the aircraft appeared to be overloaded.
As evening fell over Kinshasa, a crumbling city of jurors two questionnaires. the documents before he 6 million, calls went out on radio and television for people

Dan Ationson

HE Maxwell trial jury was sent to an hotel last night having failed to reach ver-dicts after an afternoon of deliberations. The seven women and five men will resume

jury had to be certain of the dishonesty of the defendants before convicting them; suspicion that the men had proba-bly committed the offences would not be enough.

each containing seven ques-tions with a built-in "fail-safe". This unusual aid pro-from fellow directors.

vides for yes/no answers at each stage: should a juror answer no to any question, he must acquit on that charge.

Lord Justice Phillips concluded his review with the case of Ian Maxwell who, he

said, was in a very different position from the other their work this morning.

Earlier the judge, Lord Justice Phillips, concluded his 3%-day summing up on Day 121 of the trial. He said the brother Kevin and financial adviser Larry Trachtenberg of conspiring to misuse £22 million of shares belonging to

pension funds as security for loans to the Maxwell empire. would not be enough.

To help them, he gave the "did have a duty to consider

All three deny the offence. Kevin further denies conspiring with his late father Robert to misuse £100 million of share-sale proceeds belonging to pensioners.
The Crown has alleged no

reasonable person could have thought it was in the interests of pensioners to use their assets to support the Maxwell empire during its final months of existence at the end of 1991. The defendants, he said, must have known they were acting dishonestly.

Lord Justice Phillips told jurors it would not be enough for them to consider the use

of pension assets to be dishonest; they would have to decide whether the defendants, immersed in the culture of the Maxwell group, thought it





Mark Lawson







**Richard Williams** 

# **Shops lose** in lottery madness

John Mullin

hit this month after last week's lottery

possibly leading to another interest rate cut, according to Nine out of 10 adults tried

for the £42 million double rollover record prize, spending £127 million on tickets, more than twice the usual weekly total. Scratch card sales were down by £5 million.

Economists put the impact on January's retail sales at 0.6 per cent. But prize money would be ploughed back into spending, and that would reduce the overall impact to 0.3 per cent, said David Mackie, UK economist at JP

Another economist, Don Smith, at HSBC Markets, sug-gested the figure might be 0.4

per cent. National Lottery staff were last night still waiting to hear from one of the three winning ticket holders who each scooped just over £14 million. The winner is losing interest at the rate of £2,000 a day. The identities of the two who bave come forward are being with-

come forward are being with-held at their request.

A spokeswoman for Came-lot, the lottery operators, said:
"I would have imagined by now that most people would have checked their tickets— we don't know if they're just playing it cool." She said counselling was available for all winners.

Most jackpot winners contact Camelot within 24 hours. But, as well as the £14 million winner, there were 18 out of 53 people who had won £104,747 who had still to get in

They had five of the win- Consumers splash out, ning balls - 2,3,4,13,42,44, and | page 12

Pay Unit, which campaigns for the poor, called yesterday for advertisements to carry a warning reminding players the odds were stacked against

Chris Pond, the charity's director, said the lottery was be-coming the only way that many people on low incomes would ever fulfill their aspirations. They were spending money they could ill afford on long-odds gambles.

Mr Pond believed some would suffer from long-term mental health problems as they saw their dreams of es-cape from poverty shattered week after week.

Households earning less than £6,500 a year spend £1.98 a week on average, according to National Lottery figures, although overall spending doubled last week.

Mr Pond said millions of

the 14 million in households bringing in less than £7,000 -half the average income were likely to have played.

"It's a very long shot, but they're in circumstances where people are finding it more and more difficult to make ends meet and dream of winning the big prize or any prize. We're concerned that low income budgets are going in that direction

In a television poll more than three-quarters of BBC's Newsround viewers believed the £42 million jackpot was too high

 Ali Hirli, a kebab shop owner, was jailed for six months at Wood Green crown court in London yesterday after he used two tickets stuck together with sellotape in a fraudulent attempt to claim a £150,000 prize.

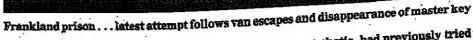
# Psychotic murderer gave up after finding home-made ladder was too heavy to carry



Reginald Wilson . . . 'exceptionally dangerous' prisoner

Prison

inquiry after killer's escape attempt



Martin Wainwright

N INQUIRY is under way at an accident-prone jail after a seriously disturbed killer almost managed to break out. Murderer Reginald Wilson, who stabbed to death a medical consultant, was foiled when his home-made ladder proved too heavy to carry to the perimeter fence at Frankland prison,

The incident follows the successful escape of lifer Alan Byrne and armed robber Thomas Clarke from a Wilson, aged 31, has been Frankland prison van on a classified as an "exception-visit to a cancer clinic in ally dangerous" prisoner

The Prison Service confirmed yesterday that Wilson had managed to cut through cell bars and had successfully hidden the bulky ladder made out of pieces of furniture. His es-cape attempt was only discovered when he gave himself up to officers after realising that he could not make it to Frankland's high outer walls with the ladder

Word

de l'uerec

Newcastle. Shortly afterwards all locks at the prison were replaced after a master key could not be specialist David Birkett, who treated him as a young

child. The trial heard that Mr Birkett was selected from a list of victims.

Wilson was trapped by a fingerprint left through a small hole in one of the gloves he had worn for the gioves he had worn for the murder, when he hit Mr Birkett 17 times over the head with a hammer after entering his Middlesbrough home disguised as a motorcycle course.

chotic, had previously tried to kill a police officer by luring him to a flat with a bogus 999 call. But the constable was suspicious and while he waited for back-up support, Wilson fled with a firearm through a back

A Prison Service spokes man said yesterday: "We do not want to disclose details for fear of encouraging fur-ther incidents of this kind." But he added that "because of the recent history involving Frankland," Bill Ab-bott, the Prison Service head of security and former The trial also heard that Wilson, who has been medically categorised as psy-

### **Bypass protest** on battle alert

ROTESTERS were expecting the first skirmishes in the battle over the Newbury bypass today as they went on standby last night to mobilise almost 2,000 supporters.

Friends of the Earth claimed it had information today. A spokesman said that the positioning of 400 security due to begin.

Dozens of protesters are living in tents and treehouses along the nine-mile route of the bypass, which is sched-uled to take two-and-a-half

A High Court application to evict them from their camps was delayed for two weeks last Thursday, but the road-building company can legally start work on other areas Friends of the Earth said it

Reliance, the security firm contracted to the bypass, said it was bringing in experienced officers for Newbury.

As soon as protesters spot the guards and construction workers approaching, they plan to call an office in New bury which will then activate the "buildozer pledge phone tree", containing the names of 1,800 local people.
All these will be asked to go

to the site immediately to try to block the work. Susan Millington, of New

to put our side of the story. I am sure that many of them will ... realise that £3.50 per hour is not sufficient reason to play an active role in such large-scale environmental

Alex Bellos

that the first bulldozers would be moving in at 7am guards in a warehouse near Didcot yesterday was a sign that construction work was

along the route.

had trailed 400 security guards in nine coaches yes-terday from London. They will be used to protect con-struction workers and

bury Friends of the Earth, said: "We're looking to meeting the security people

### Nuclear deterrent aimed at Third World dictators

David Fairhall Defence Correspondent

BRITAIN has deployed a submarine missiles with just one warhead, intended to strike fear into any Third World dictator tempted to try

nuclear blackmail.

The second of the Royal Navy's Trident submarines. HMS Victorious, slipped away from its Clydeside base on Sunday evening, believed to be carrying single-warhead "sub-strategic" ballistic missiles, as well as the multi-warhead variety for which it was designed during the cold war. The Ministry of Defence

would confirm neither the precise content of its 16 missile tubes nor that it was heading for an Atlantic patrol. But the Government has previously disclosed that Victorious would be the first to replace its obsolete WE-177 deploy the new form of freefall bombs - which are

: 1.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament condemned the deployment as "a dangerous turn for the worse". The paign's chairwoman Janet Bloomfield argued that it ushered in a new era of gunboat

diplomacy.
"The trend in nuclear weapons and policy is towards smaller, more flexible and highly accurate weappns the Government believes will be more acceptable to use", she claimed. "It is a dangerous turn for the worse in terms of defence strategy and makes the likelihood of nuclear weapons being used

perhaps initially as a warning shot — all the greater."

For the MoD accountants,

fitting Trident with sub-strategic weapons was also a convenient way of avoiding the £2-3 billion cost of providing the RAF with a new airlaunched nuclear missile to themselves being withdrawn.

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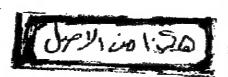
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# PM plan for tests at five is shelved

Donald MacLeod **Education Correspondent** 

ESTS for five-yearolds - one of the key education policies being promoted by John Major – have been effectively shelved until after the general election.

With the nursery vouchers scheme struggling to get off the ground, the slippage of tests to measure the effective-ness of pre-school education comes as a further embarrassment and follows infighting between Downing Street and the Department for Education and Employment over the purpose and nature of the

proposed tests.
Mr Major has been pressing for tests but the department, reflecting the views of many educationalists, felt that small children entering school should be assessed by their teachers over a period of time, rather than face being labelled failures at the age of

Sir Ron Dearing, the Gov-ernment's chief curriculum adviser, concluded that testing of the kind wanted by the Prime Minister could not go ahead until universal nursery education for four-year-olds had been set up through the vouchers scheme.

Today ministers will admit that the potentially controversial introduction of "baseline" testing will not be introduced until September 1996. A pilot nursery voucher scheme s due to rum in four authori-



Sir Ron Dearing . . . priority given to nursery vouchers

ties from September, and ministers intend this to be succeeded by a national scheme from September 1997. These five-year-olds and "rising fives" could then be tested when they started school a year later.

duced by Wandsworth in 1992 and taken up on a large scale by Birmingham, could be employed whatsver the result of the general election. Labour is also interested in the idea. but is likely to put the emphasis on teacher assessment Baseline results could be com pared to tests at age seven to measure the progress of children at different infant

about "learning outcomes" for nursery schooling follows groups will also be outlined.

relieved not to be imposing a new set of tests on teachers at

ham's director of education said baseline assessment had been introduced with the cooperation of teachers and was used for diagnostic purposes not for league tables.

practice in schools and there could be great benefits in national system, provided it was sensitively introduced. "The dangers are that we all get into league tables without any understanding of dif-

Michael White Political Editor

ENIOR Conservative MPs and MEPs yester-day reopened their par-ty's wounds on Europe when

hey joined like-minded

among EU countries,

with Britain playing a leading

Defence Correspondent

N UNDERWATER sur

vey of the vast muni-tions disposal ground between Scotland and Ireland

has disclosed that many ex-

plosives were wrongly dumped in shallow inshore

The results of the survey

conducted by the Scottish Office fisheries department,

will confirm fears that a recently-laid British Gas pipe-

line has disturbed thousands

of dangerous phosphorous cylinders being washed up along the Ayrshire coast and the Mull of Kintyre — one of

which injured a four-year-old

boy. Scottish Office minister

Lord Lindsay said yesterday there would be no conclusive

evidence until the results of

the full study were known:
"But in all probability we acknowledge there could be a

Labour and Liberal Democrat

said. Teachers could also fall into the trap of low expectations for some children. Wandsworth carries out simple tests on reception children in which they are shown

ment of each child over the course of the first half term. Margaret Robinson, early years adviser in the London borough, said they were now results to the national curric

ulum tests at age seven.

Raseline Today's announcement

wide consultation by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority. Details of nursery vouchers and a "light touch" inspection system for nurseries and play-Ministers will also be

promised stability on the national curriculum, and test ing and the size of reception classes is a political issue. Tim Brighouse, Birming-

The results could provide useful information about best

ferent circumstances," he

case among the "Euro-baffled" British for closer EU pictures and asked to circle certain objects, but teachers integration and a single also compile their own asses The veteran European Movement published the findings of a Gallup poll suggesting that 56 per cent of voters still favour closer co-opera-

role. But voters remained un- | But the Euro-sceptics ap- | including the former minister happily ignorant of the | peared to be winning the pro- | Edwina Currie and -- offstage happily ignorant of the

knowledge of the EU as poor or very poor. Only 8 per cent said their knowledge was good or very good. ment also claimed The move that the poll showed the public colleagues to promote the

remaining broadly pro-Euro-pean, with Europhiles out-numbering sceptics by three to one. Sixty-one per cent want to keep options open on joining a single currency — John Major's own strategy.

Against the 56 per cent fa-vouring closer co-operation, and 23 per cent were neutral.

The minister added that al-

though the discarded muni-

tions were not found to have endangered the public or con-

sons learned from the survey

would be applied to future off-

shore operations. Hundreds of thousands of

tons of surplus war munitions were dumped between 1945 and 1976 around the deep

underwater trench known as

Beaufort's Dyke, between

Northern Ireland and the

Mull of Gailoway. Incomplete records held by

the Ministry of Defence show the munitions included rock-ets filled with phosgene gas, high explosive bombs, mortar smoke bombs, lucendiary

small arms ammunition and

machine gun ammunition

from captured German U-

Underwater television and

sonar pictures confirmed

issues, the group said.

Some 56 per cent of the 805 the people polled had heard people polled described their more of the arguments against a single currency than in favour, and only 18 per cent had heard more of the positive case.

John Cody, great grandson of Sam Cody, the wild west showman and flight pioneer, with a collection of his ancestor's memorabilia to be auctioned at Sotheby's photograph; sean smith

Europhile MPs fight back in propaganda war

"This survey shows there is all to play for in the debate about Europe." said the euro in the months ahead. about Europe," said the movement's chairman, Giles Radice, Labour MP for Durham North. "The British aren't Euro-sceptic; they're simply Euro-baffled. Despite the barrage of anti-European propaganda, most people are still prepared to support the idea of closer co-operation." Backed by leading Tories,

from yesterday's Westminster press conference — Sir Edward Heath, the MEP Lord Plumb and Sir Leon Brittan, the UK's senior European commissioner, they signalled their determination to fight

Asked if she would put the European cause ahead of party unity, Mrs Currie, MP for South Derbyshire, replied: "What is most important to me is the welfare of my country" — a calculation tied to membership of a single currency if one is launched, as planned, on January 1, 1999.

SCOTL4ND

Surveyed by Scottish Office

size and shape as the phos-phorous cylinders washed ashore, but none of these could be positively identified.

The 4,000 or so phosphorus cylinders that have recently

been washed ashore look like hollow bones or discarded paint rollers. Under water they are inext, but in the air

Since Mr Major had apportant on Radio 4's Today propealed to his party barely 24 gramme that a whispering hours earlier to close ranks campaign had been "whipped and stave off election defeat

"this election is there to be up against me" after his criti-cism of the defector. won" - Tory sceptics took it as an attack, at a time when MP for Hartlepool, plus lead-ing Lib Dems Charles Kennethey are angry at hints that Mr Major has decided against

publishing a European policy white paper ahead of the and Skye, and former party candidate Alan Watson, were 'Maastricht II" inter-governcareful at the press confer mental conference due to ence to stress the need for economic convergence and open in March. It coincided with a renewed the national interest in deciding on a single currency.
Being outside it would be spat over the defection to the Liberal Democrats of Emma Nicholson, the European Movement's vice-chairman

"like Manhattan trying to run different dollar from the in part over Europe. Michael United States," said Mr Ken Portillo, the Defence Secre nedy, who also endorsed calls tary, complained from Tokyo for a referendum.

dy, MP for Ross, Cromarty



on a move away

PPALLING examina-A PPALLING SAMULANT THE TOTAL TOTAL TOTAL TOTAL THE TOTA tnous" business of asking the Government for per-mission to introduce selec-

of England boys' compre-hensive overlooking the Oval cricket ground, has reverted to a version of the banding system operated by the Conservatives bete noire, the Inner London Education Authority.

In September more than 200 boys were tested in literacy, numeracy and non-verbal reasoning for the 92 places. This year the school will admit pupils in the pro-portion of 40 above average ability, 40 average and 20 schools in the neighbour-

below average.

Mr Jones said the school's intake had become skewed towards lower ability pupils because it had been based on social facand proximity rather than ability. Now it was receiving applications from neighbouring boroughs like Lambeth, Wandsworth

"Over a period of five years it should make an enormous difference to our examination results," Mr Jones said. Last year only one boy in the fifth form was of above average abil- by a very small percentage ity, and the proportion of their intake.

Donald MacLeod gaining five A to C grades was 1 per cent. Next year 37 boys in "band 1" would be entering the school in in education

September. The school was still a comprehensive taking the full ability range.

In contrast Durham Johnston School returns excellent results at both GCSE and A level but the

headteacher, John Dun-ford, opposes selection. "This is a move towards schools selecting pupils and mission to introduce selection into his south London grant maintained school.

Ironically Archbishop Tenison's School, a Church schools parental preferences are of little use if a child does not fulfil the ad-

missions criteria." His comprehensive school serves a mixture of rundown former mining villages and the prosperous outskirts of a university city, but Mr Dunford believes it is important to leave the local education authority in charge of admissions policies for the sake of coherence. Going it

"The vast majority of headteachers would agree with that. Only a small number may be driven to do it by the competitive sit-uation in their own neightions will be little used," he

predicted. Critics of the partial selection proposed by the Government argue it will increase the polarisation between schools by weed-ing out potential trouble-makers through parental interviews. Most heads say their problems are caused

### Policeman failed to report hanged girl was suicide risk birds from

Arested a teenager after she twice tried to throw herself from a second-storey window admitted to a fatal accident inquiry yesterday that he had not warned colleagues she could be a suicide risk. Two weeks later, Kelly Hol-

land, aged 17, was found hanged in har cell at Cornton Vale prison, near Stirling. PC Stewart Smith, aged 24, was giving evidence to the in-

quiry into the deaths of Ms Holland and fellow inmate Arlene Elliot, also 17, who were found hanged in their cells within four days of each other in June. He said he arrested Ms Hol-

after she twice tried to jump out of the window of an empty flat in Hamilton. He said she could have been trying to kill herself - or she could have been trying to es-

cape from men who had

raided the flat to try to stop

land for breach of the peace

Illicit parties.
PC Smith said Ms Holland. of Hamilton, was drunk and busive when he arrested her. She was taken to East Kilbride police station because on duty in Hamilton.

"I told the sergeant that in my opinion this was just drunken conduct rather than

cer, Sergeant Fergus McCal-lum, told the inquiry be would have called a doctor if he had known exactly what

proached by solicitors acting for Ms Holland's family that he saw details of the charge. He said: "I was quite shocked when I read it.'

tor if he had known the na-ture of the allegation, he replied: "If I had known that I would have, absolutely."

window charge. She was released the next day. Two weeks later she was arrested on a charge of breach

### Fight to save Yorkshire Water plan

hurry to get home dumped their explosive cargo in rela-tively shallow water before

they reached the deep trench intended for it.

Pictures displayed at yes-terday's Scottish Office and MoD press conference in Ab-

ammunition boxes, crates

what fishermen have long been telling a sceptical Ministry of Defence — that on many occasions ships in a include objects of the same

NORTHERN

YORKSHIRE Water is threatening the largest wildflower flood meadow in Europe with a water extraction scheme from the River Derwent, says the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The feeding grounds of around 38,000 wild birds and a population of otters in the Lower Derwent Valley are at risk because of Yorkshire Water's extraction plans to combat the continuing drought.

Barbara Young, the RSPB chief executive, said: "It is extraordinary that Yorkshire Water should apply for this drought order knowing the importance of this site. The Lower Derwent Valley must not be sacrificed for a quick fix solution."

The organisation is asking John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, to reject Yorkshire Water's application for new extraction licences for the Derwent.

### Mercedes plans emission-free car powered by hydrogen

they smoulder or burn.
Two Scottish Labour MPs,
George Foulkes and Brian
Donohoe, gatecrashed the

Paul Brown Environment Correspondent

SMAIL cars powered by Solar-manufactured hy-drogen will form the major-ity of all vehicles within the next 50 years, according to Mercedes-Benz, the luxury car maker.

Gerrit Huy, senior manager and the company's environment expert, said the days of the big luxury car were numbered. Mercedes was already looking at carbon fibre compounds.

Ms Huy said emissionfree cars would replace petrol and diesel, and development was already under way. "Cars will be small and light, they will no longer have a buffer zone of material, so you will have to ensure safety in other

Volvo and General Motors say in a series of interviews with car manufacturers in the Swedish magazine, Tomorrow, that the day of the traditional car is limited. Changes are being driven by the demand vate car in Europe.

from California for zeroemission cars, which means if one can be produced there is already large potential market.

wrong time, in the wrong place, and by the wrong

people". They demanded that further surveys be carried out closer to the Scottish coast to

Mr Foulkes was particu-larly concerned that seabed sediments should be investi-

gated, along with recent reports of underwater explosions. Mr Donohoe

claimed munitions may have been dumped only a half mile

In London, the shadow de-

fence secretary, David Clark, condemned the Beaufort's

Dyke survey as too little, too late. "After a year of trying to

sweep this issue under the

carpet the Government should have learned that complacency and half-measures are not the solution," he said. British Gas said in a state-

ment that work on the off-

shore section of the Scotland-

Northern Ireland pipeline "had been conducted in strict

accordance with procedures

away from the shoreline.

allay public concern.

Compressed bydrogen is Mercedes' favoured alter-native to petrol, but producing the fuel is expensive. Mercedes is working on a way of producing hydrogen while the vehicle is

moving. Volvo still sees a future for electric vehicles, and particularly hybrids which can switch from electricity lightweight alumunium to petrol or diesel. Per-Erik Mohlin, executive vicepresident, said the company was seriously con-cerned about congestion limiting the future of cars in cities and was linking up with Gothenburg in Sweden and Curitiba in Brazil to find solutions to overall traffic needs.

General Motors' manager for future developments, Thomas Crumm, believes that the private car has a longer future in North America than in Europe. There would be an expansion of mass transportation at the expense of the pri-

# press conference, protesting that it was being held "at the 'brain' jailed

FRAUDSTER who breached National Westminster Bank's security system was told by a judge yesterday that if his sentence was based on the number of offences he had committed he "would not live long mough to complete it" long enough to complete it". Michael Boparan, aged 30, who had falled in business, masterminded a "highly pro-fessional" £1.3 million international bank fraud to main-tain his millionaire lifestyle. He was jailed for five years at Southwark crown court.

With the help of four young insiders who gave him highly confidential information, he had forged gold and platinum credit cards and then plundered high-spending corpo-rate and individual accounts. Judge Michael Harris called Boparan arrogant and said the swindle had netted him more than £1 million. He had corrupted others, includ-

ing four bank clerks, three of whom were also sentenced. Paul Deacon, aged 20, who was paid £1,000 for the inforwas pain 21,000 for the thick mation he provided, was responsible for £220,000 of NatWest's losses and received three months' youth custody. Karen Baigent, aged 21, and Deborah Hill, 19, who

Deborah Hill, 19, who received £620 and £150 respectively for their parts in the conspiracy, were each or-dered to do 240 hours' commu-Those "good, decent young people" would not have fallen

into temptation but for Bo-paran and his "powerful need" for the information they were able to provide him, the judge said. He must have committed

hundreds of offences, if not thousands, the judge said. "If I were to sentence you to imprisonment on that basis you would not live long enough to complete it."

The judge said he accepted the father-of-one was talented enough to have succeeded in business legitimately.

Boparan, of St John's Wood, north-west London, former head of a mobile phone com-pany, was convicted last month of conspiracy to defraud. He was told realisable assets of £22,000 would be confiscated; if not paid, a year would be added to his sentence.

### History of selection

1944: Rab Butler's Education | Thatcher as education secre Act establishes system of tary oversees steep decline in grammar schools taking the grammar school numbers. grammar echools taking the top 20 per cent of pupils tested at 11-plus and secondary mod-

1965: Labour establishes national policy for compre-hensives but left to local authorities to decide on form. Some Conservative-run coun-

Early 1970s: Margaret change admissions.

1992: Education secretary John Patten permits schools

to select up to 10 per cent of pupils on basis of ability or aptitude for music, sport etc. 1996: Gillian Shephard extends limit to 15 per cent and eases paperwork needed by grant maintained schools to there were no women officers

a serious suicide attempt," he

Ms Holland had done.
Sgt McCallum, aged 34, said
it was not until he was ap-

Asked by solicitor Andrew Isles, for Ms Holland's family, if he would have called a doc-

He agreed he should have been given more information by the arresting officers.

The inquiry heard Ms Holland never appeared on the

of the peace and remanded to Cornton Vale where she died. The inquiry continues

He made an outstanding contribution to public life, particularly in France, throughout the post-war period. He faced a very serious illness with exceptional courage and dignity

John Major

Europe has lost a great statesman. I am mourning a good friend. We worked together in a close and trusting way for many years in the building of Europe and the deepening of German-French friendship

Helmut Kohl

Those of us in Asia and the **Pacific will always** remember him for his decision to stop French testing of nuclear weapons

Fidel Ramos, Philippines president

The French crossed a frontier on May 10, they conquered fear, broke with taboos and the traps of obscurantism, and gave hope to light

Jack Lang, culture minister, 1981

He was a personality perpetually on show, even to himself. He who every day thought out his selfpresentation progressively slipped into a reconstruction of his own reality which was permanent and self-satisfied

Jean-Marie Colombani, Le Monde



A man of enormous strength and vision and a source of great inspiration to many people on the left and centre-left of politics

Tony Blair

Over his many years as president, and by his bearing and his culture, he seemed to symbolise for the rest of the world something of the essential France

Lady Thatcher

When push came to shove, when things got really difficult and I needed to talk to him about a problem and needed his support he would stand with us

George Bush

He was a big rascal and a great president. Very intelligent, very cultured, but a shark

Parisienne Isabelle Gougeon

I'm sick at heart. He was a great guy. He did some good things and some bad things, but nobody's perfect

Parisienne Lilliane Pascal

I was disappointed by his politics but not by the man. He was a great man. He created hopes for society, a vision. But he was unable to fight the growing power of money which is continuing today

Mitterrand voter Georges Locatelli

# France mourns man of conscience



Paul Webster

URING the last two or three years of his life, there were constant cretly writing a political auto-biography in which he would silence critics who repeatedly said he was inspired by per sonal ambition rather than the national interest.

The book never appeared.

poral judgments. He went to the Catholic philosopher Jean Guitton to find out if there was anything after death, be-cause he had dismissed religion as "a collection of absurdities"

The philosopher became irritated with unanswerable questions, but this did not stop Mitterrand from worry ing over the matter again in the preface of a book written by a woman who counselled the dying, and pestering friends and journalists with his morbid preoccupation. This obsession with spiritual posterity marked much of his life, and among his final acts was to buy a plot of land on the top of Mont Beuvray in

central France, a hill made sacred by the unification of the tribes of Gaul against the It was here that he intended to be buried beside his wife,

Danielle, in a doubly symbolic reconciliation. The former president was by Mitterrand wanted to be future pilgrims to the grave then more involved in discovering the truth about the after unified a divided nation while hills in his fief. La Nièvre,

RS Mitterrand publicly enmous reunion pensated for her husband's long liaison with one of his 1974 presidential election. which resulted in the birth of a daughter, Mazarine. Future biographers will find it diffi-cult to look at the double grave and make an unfavour-able analysis of his private

From the political point of view, the implied claim that the tomb enfolds a natural heir to a succession of legend ary figures - Vercingetorix. Joan of Arc, General De Gaulle - who created the unity of the French nation appears to be the dead presi-dent's chosen starting point for judging his career. Will

remaining loyal to his wife of | judge him as a statesman of 50 years, despite his constant | historical stature, as he saw professional of all post-war French politicians?

The most common reason opponents give for dismissing him as merely a Machiavellian opportunist is that be was inconsistent, that his passage from a rightwing deputy leader in 1971 was the result of a series of self-seeking compromises. Yet there are incontestable common themes running through Mitterrand's politics that never varied from his first unsuccessful fight for a national assembly seat in a rich Parisian suburb

in June 1946. Five months after that de-feat, he fought his first general election in the Nièvre, a depressed rural department, where he seized a seat from the Communists on a platform that warned against the Bolschevisation of France. That first important campaign of the new fourth republic was dominated by republic was dominated by The other striking consis-the sort of constitutional tency in his philosophy was a

questions that fascinated and inspired Mitterrand for the leaflets were devoted mostly to the progressive social issues, including trade union freedom, that he defended when president in 1981.

One of Mitterrand's sharpest critics, the wartime Socialist leader Daniel Mayer, pointed out that al-though Mitterrand's career was first sponsored by an odd coalition of third republic and former Vichy politicians, with the help of royalist lobbles, the future president con-sistently voted with the left on all social issues throughout the 12 years before the

fifth republic was created. This fidelity to a social con-science, instilled by a mother who went to mass at 6 every morning, is far more signifi-cant than his abandoning of a fervent attachment to the monarchy or his alliance with the Communists that lost him some of his most influential rightwing friends.

national assembly elections. four presidential polls, a senatorial election, six departmental (county council) cam-paigns and four municipal

council polls. This determination to see an end to war in Europe was far clearer in its purpose than De Gaulle's readiness to give up a limited amount of French sovereignty in the in-terests of a stand-off with Germany, and more idealistic than the ambitions of the other strongly pro-European president. Valery Giscard d'Estaing, whose vision was mainly limited to economic and monetary advances.
Mitterrand's advocacy of a

united Europe has made Lionel Jospin's defence of Europe inside the Socialist Party a simple task, while seriously limiting the choices Gaullist movement.

World events and national

permanent attachment to has made to the evolution of did he have any serious rival European union throughout a French and European poli in the art of patience and the cies, but they are unlikely to depreciate his reputation as 50 years at the centre of national decision-making could be the basis of a guide to a successful parliamentary

> IS training as a return to the bar — and his pro-found culture were allied to an instinctive skill in methods of gaining an advantage Some of the most outstanding leaders of his generation, often on his own side, like Pierre Mendes-France and Michel Rocard, were routed in tactical battles, despite their apparent intellectual and moral superiority.

In pure oratory in front of a campaign crowd, Mitterrand was far superior to De Gaulle, which was perhaps the key factor in his astonishing 1965 presidential challenge. Nor

advantage, not least in epic duels with Mr Giscard in 1974 and 1981, when the Mitterrand curning demolished the

hins in invite

Giscard arrogance.
Of course, luck, both good and bad, often played a key role, and the last to benefit from Mitterrand's fortuitous timing will be Mr Chirac, the man whom the Socialist laughing stock of France within six months of being elected. The Gaullist president learned the most impor-tant lessons of political survival and eventual triumph when he cohabited with Mitterrand as prime minister in 1986. With the country united in mourning a politician whose career represents France's entire post-war glories and disasters, a resur-gence of last month's anti-Chirac confrontation could well be postponed indefinitely.

# An egoist who shared with compatriots a lifelong fascination with himself



**Régis Debray** 

### Le Monde

F THE bundred kings who have governed France, none more readily with portrait forming the chronicle of our painters and biographers time into an intimate diary.
than President François He interested us in his fam-Mitterrand.

In France, Narcissus and the author are never far apart Nor is the written word distant from public affairs. distant from public affairs. This man of letters astonish.

The ma

in innumerable documentaries, interviews and books. Whereas Charles de Gaulle would speak of France, Mit-terrand spoke of himself. The nation failed to interest him. His innermost thoughts. on the other hand, reassured us because we could empathise with the head of state as an ordinary fellow who shared

our personal worries. In 1969 De Gaulle ended 30 years of history with a press release of only two sentences. He retired without talking to journalists, or making television appearances, remaining alone with his thoughts until be died. Mitterrand took part in many farewell ceremonies has co-operated from 1994 onwards, trans-He interested us in his fam-ily life, his adolescence, his meetings and his old friends.

He memortalised himself by

degrees, smoothing out rough

impending death, his physical suffering, the after-life. He was quizzed by journalists week-in, week-out: "How are you coping with your treatment, Mr President?" "How do you feel about dying?"

rhetoric eloquent, if not emphatic. At dinner, I discerned his powerful and concise mind, and heard his scathing comments. These sudden switches from seriousness to sarcasm (or, in his writing, Why, over 10 years, did I from elegy to bitchiness) left associate myself closely with many confused. It had one

'His sudden switches from seriousness to sarcasm left many confused'

a man who was not my type, I advantage: blowing hot and running the risk of losing myself, as well as my reputation? Without my years of exile, I

would never have set my General De Gaulle's former adversary, and invested him with the highest mission: making a success of the highest office, a kind of Socialist De Gaulle.

cold kept the lukewarm people away.

The next day, he invited me

for a drive around the southwest that lasted three days. I discovered rural France. which I had only ever experienced in my imagination, and finally touched down more drunk than Lindbergh at Le Bourget airport.

IV till the recent elections. He ents, his ancestors. He gave me back the youth spent in and a new awareness.

Between me and this serious, 50 year-old man -- aiready pursued (class enemies have about Vichy, guillotined Alge rian patriots, the Suez expedition and the Observatoire scandal — emerged longrepressed desires. I was charmed by an entire French Milky Way, where the Marseillaise of Renoir, Jean Moulin's scarf, Walter Benjamin's round spectacles and the barricades of 1944 shone in the

Twenty years later, in September 1994, I saw Mitter-rand again in the cloisters of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, where he had come to talk to the students.

ingly metamorphosed into a man of screen images, confessing and bearing his soul in innumerable documentation. He drew criticism by took me to see Mitterrand. He was campaigning in Pau, for some local election. His plat to life with stories great and my secret guide to heroes. It is mall, from the time of Henri was not that Mitterand had changed much; rather that the snow had melted. Such are the affairs of the heart. Mitterrand was an egocen

tric. obliging, productive man, because he never made his ego a rigid dogma. He was open to everyone. By seeing in him a character from a forget what the difference is between a novel and a treatise. His life's work will be himself, inventing heroes to suit him, all supportive and all different: Croix-de-Feu, Pétainists. Giraudists, Gaullists. third force, anti-communists, authoritarian anti-capitalists, indulgent liberals and Europhiles - a holy alliance.

Extracted from Regis Debray's six-part series in Le Monde, from a forthcoming book, Let Us Now Praise Famous Men: A Political Education. g Règis Debray.

Le Monde is a member of the

### Legend's lifetime



1916 Born in Jamac, southstation-master, Attends Roman Catholic colleges, active in rightwing student politics.

1939-42 Serves in French army in 1939-40. Wounded and taken prisoner near Verdun, he escapes from Germany in 1941 and becomes an official of collaborationist Vichy government. 1942-45 While in Vichy, becomes active in Resistance. Meets de Gaulle in Algiers in 1943 and is smuggled back to

1946 Standing for a small leftwing movement, is elected MP. 1947 At 31, appointed veter-ans' affairs minister,

1964-1957 Hardline interior minister at start of Algeria's war of Independence. Justice minister when military is given full powers to crush rabels.

1985 Forces de Gaulle Into a June 16 1971 After unifying Socialist Party, becomes leader. Negotiates 1972 Union of the Left pact with Communists. May 19 1974 Narrowly defeated for president by centre-right Va-kry Giscard d'Estaing.

May 10 1981 Defeats Giscard

ist president, 1981-82 Nationalises se of banking, insurance and manu-

facturing, imposes exchange controls, abolishes death penally, cuts retirement age to 60 and working week to 39 hours, grants workers fifth week of paid 1986-1988 Forced to share

power with conservative government headed by Jacques Chirac after Socialists lose elections.

May 8 1988 Re-elected for a second seven-year term, defeat-

ing Chirac. 1990-91 Sends troops and warships to Gulf war, is first Western leader to visit the crisis zone. Popularity reaches peak. April 1992 Freezes French nuclear weapons tests in South

Facinc.
Sept 1992 Cancer diagnosed.
March 1993 Socialists crushed
in parliamentary election. Conservative government sets about May 17 1995 Hands over office

مكتاب الدعل

Sarajevo Serbs

threaten exodus

SEPARATIST Bosnian Serb leaders have threatened to order an exodus from around Sarajevo unless they are granted a delay in the handover of Serb-held districts to the Muslim-led govern-

ment, diplomats said yesterday. The move could trigger a crisis

Momeilo Krajisnik, the hardline Speaker of the Bosnian Serb assembly, has asked for a decision by tomorrow on delaying

for peacekeepers.
Nato stepped up security in preparation for a visit by President Bill Clinton. Apache helicopters were put on patrol, and Nato warned it would hit back with deadly force.

until September 15 the transfer of authority from Serbs to Muslims around Sarajevo, diplomats said. In a letter to the High Representative for Bosnia. Carl Bildt.

Mr Krajisnik hinted at possible violence. "We have succeeded, hitherto, to persuade our people not to embark on a mass

exodus, not to burn houses and not to engage in any form of revenge," he wrote. "However, since the final fate of Serb Sarajevo is unknown, a mass exodus could occur at any mo-

ment, prohably not without bloody incidents." Mr Bildt's delegation said he had no authority to grant the delay.

amnesty for Serb soldiers who have not committed war crimes "We do not want an exodus of Serbs from Sarajevo, because it

would show that a multinational community in Bosnia is not possible," he said. — Reuter. Sarajevo.

LVARO ARZU, a businessman of the National Advancement Party (PAN), declared victory early yesterday in Guatemala's second round presidential elections. His rival, Alfonso Portillo of

the Guatemalan Republican Front, declined to concede until all

But with 83 per cent of the vote counted, Mr Arzu held an

unassailable lead of 52 per cent over Mr Portillo's 48 per cent. Almost two-thirds of the electorate failed to vote.

A former foreign minister, Mr Arzú gained a reputation for honesty as mayor of Guatemala City from 1985-90. Almost 70 per

In first-round elections two months ago, in which the PAN candidate failed to win an overall majority, his party obtained 42

His big challenge will be to control the armed forces, which relinquished power in 1986, and to conclude talks with leftwing guerrillas. — Phil Gunson, Mexico City.

Guatemalan poll winner

cent of votes in the capital were cast for him.

the results were in.

of the 80 seats in congress

The Bosnian president, Alija Izetbegovic, under international pressure, said his government was likely to declare an

# Gold calms China's nerves

foreign investors to join the gold rush sweeping the country - the precious metal has become the status symbol in Deng Xiao-

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ping's acquisitive society. China produced 105 tons of gold last year, the world's sixth largest output. Gold bureau officials are offering profit returns of up to 30 per cent annually.

The invitation coincides

with the visit of the foreign secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, who is keen to focus on trade and other relatively uncon-tentious issues. But his agenda is complicated by the new row over China's alleged policy of letting orphans starve to death.

Gold mining is not without its own controversies. Prison labour is often used in the state sector, particularly in remote provinces such as

No one knows how much is produced in illegal private mines, where prospectors wage gun battles over claims. Many peasants seeking their fortune have died in unsafe shafts burrowed into the

Throughout Asia the affluent lifestyle of the emerging economic tigers has boosted demand for gold, but China is now the world's biggest mar-ket. Estimates of gold consumption in China are as high as 250 tons yearly, with the shortfall made up by legal

and illegal imports.

For the fat cat who has everything a popular restaurant in Guangzhou offers "golden banquets". Guests may select abalone, sharks fin or crocodile, topped with 34carat gold leaf.

The gold industry has be-come a paradigm of the new China, where cases of prosperity are expanding even in poorer provinces, but income gaps have widened and life is a desperate struggle for

Mining accidents are regularly reported in the official press as a warning to illegal miners. When a mound of rocks swept down a mountainside burying more than 50 miners and their families alive, the official China Gold said this should be "a lesson to those who covet gold more

Shanty towns run by gold barons, with drugs and prostitution rife, have sprung up

People in Chumarleb, a remote county in the northwest province of Qinghai, report the arrival of thousands of goldminers. Hundreds prospect at a time for gold, carrying machetes or "There was no knocking off machine-guns, and the local till the quots was fulfilled," police force of 40 officers is



Going for gold . . . Peasants flock to remote Chumarleb, where the police are powerless to stop illegal mining

One enterprising group of formation Network. "which can be panned or dug for are gold tax". who have turned to gold mingold smugglers from a state meant that those who could forced to pay a "gold tax". ing and "broken with tradiowned mine evaded the attent not work quickly had to go on This unusual levy requires tion". Most Tibetans still

tion of security guards by concealing the gold in a coffin, which was accompanied by mourners and a funeral band. Once safely outside, the procession stopped and the "corpse" scrambled out with some difficulty, his pockets weighed down with gold.

But some of the grimmest tales come from state mines on the Tibetan plateau, where cheap labour. Refugees have told of being forced to work in primitive conditions to extract gold and other rare metals, such as uranium, lithium and caesium.

digging until 11 o'clock or even midnight.. Everyone had sores on their back from carrying, and on their hands."

Some prisoners. Chinese as One refugee explained: "It

them either to prospect for gold themselves — and then hand part of it over — or pay an impossibly large sum in

### Some prisoners 'broke their own legs or smashed their heads open with picks'

have become so desperate that they "deliberately broke their own legs or even smashed their own heads open with their picks or

| Illegal mining appears to be | mines." | encouraged in Tibet as well. | The Chinese press has said one refugee interviewed encouraged in Tibet as well. The Chinese press has by the London-based Tibet In- Tibetans living where gold pressed Tibetan herdsmen

well as Tibetan, were said to I works like this. The locals . have to sell a fixed ratio of this gold to the government at a low price. They can mine wherever they want, as long as they don't go to other counties [or] mine in official

believe that the mountains and lakes are "blessings of God" which should not be

Gold mining in Tibet, says the Beijing-backed govern-ment in Lhasa, is set to become "a new growth sector for the region's economic

development". Gold is a lure for many young business people des-perate to share in China's new prosperity. Local authorities in mountain areas send emissaries to Beijing to entice investment in gold mining. They promise huge 20 per cent or more annually rewards and guarantee huge does worry ordinary people.

But today's gold craze also before a sense of arcial instament taxes and controls can reflects a sense of social insta-

be avoided. High gold consumption future.

The leak occurred in a pipe-

line used to carry oil between

Bashkortostan and Siberia.

companies with murky ties to

reflects the traditional faith

in gold as a hedge against in-flation. Nearly 40 per cent of

Chinese city-dwellers, the official statistics say, own one

or more gold ornaments. "I

do not approve of it," said the

deputy minister of metals, but

hai recall the desperate last

years of the Nationalist

regime before the Communist

victory in 1949. The rich

bought gold while the poor reeled from inflation which

could halve the value of bank-

The situation now is very different, though inflation at

bility and doubt about the

each year. He said: "We

warned everyone some time

ago that you cannot contain a

spill once it is in a river and

Yeltsin's opponents believe he has allowed the oil compa-

nies to grow rich at the ex-pense of tax avoidance. In fact

they have also grown rich at the expense of not paying for the upkeep of their industry. Meanwhile foreign oil com-

on production sharing, de-

signed to pave the way for

overseas investment in Rus-sian oil and gas, is too

it was "a fact of life".

notes in a day.

BURMA'S opium warlord, Khun Sa, and senior Burmese army officers toasted a peace agreement ending the rebel's war with the government, one of his aides said yesterday.

About 1,000 fighters from Khun Sa's Mong Tai Army (MTA) took part in the peace ceremony on Sunday at the drug lord's

Army drinks with drug baron

headquarters in the hills of north-eastern Burma's Shan state.

About 20 senior army officers and government officials arrived in Ho Mong by helicopter, an MTA officer said. The highlight was the handing over of MTA weapons to the government side, including a cache of surface-to-air missiles.

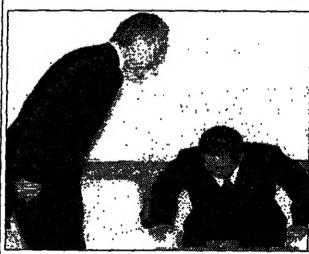
The peace agreement was negotiated in December. The pact is expected to turn the MTA into a local government militia, but Khun Sa's fate remains unclear. Last week the United States announced a \$2 million reward for information leading to his arrest and conviction.

Burmese government officials have said Khun Sa will not be extradicted to the United States but will be put on trial in Rangoon. — Reuter, Bongkok.

### Journalist held in Nigeria

THE Nigeria correspondent of the Financial Times, Paul Adams, was arrested in Bori last Thursday during a reporting assign ment. Last night diplomatic efforts to free him were continuing. according to a Financial Times spokesman, who said Mr Adams was visited by a British High Commission official yesterday.

### Japan's Murayama bows out



JAPAN'S trade and industry minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto (right) is to succeed Tomiichi Murayama (left) as prime minister, after all three partners in the coalition government gave him their backing yesterday. The two are pictured bowing to one another at a meeting in the

prime minister's official residence. With the three coalition parties holding more than 290 of the 511 seats in the lower house, Mr Hashimoto, aged 58, is certain to win the formal vote in parliament on

But leaders of the main opposition Shinshinto (New Frontier Party) were angry at what they saw as an undem-ocratic transfer of power. They threatened a mass resig-nation of all their 170 MPs to try to force a dissolution and general elections. Media commentators also expressed unease at the fourth change of prime minister since elec-

### Hungarian reformer dies

KAROLY GROSZ, the former Hungarian communist leader who neiped unleash the reforms which eventually destroyed communism in Hungary, has died aged 65. He died last Sunday of kidney cancer after a long illness, the official news agency MTI said. He was prime minister from June 1967 to November 1988, and

Soviet tanks crushed the anti-communist revolt in 1956. Grosz was ousted by reformers at a party congress in October

the tide," one Western diplomat said. - Reuter, Budapest.

### Death Row woman pleads to die

### Don Terry in Chicago

After a lifetime of incest, Arape, alcoholism and bloodshed, Gwen Garcia has ended up on death row. But would never dream of — she wants to die. She is known in terse penal parlance as a

"Volunteer." If she gets her wish, Ms New York Times

woman executed in the United States since capital punishment was resumed in 1977. The last execution of a woman in Illinois happened 50 years ago. Ms Garcia, aged 37, is

Garcia will be only the second

scheduled to be put to death by lethal injection next week for the murder of her second hushand, George Garcia, an abusive man.

News in brief

### Eight die in Afghan attack

Eight people were killed and 23 injured in a rocket attack on the Afghan capital yester day, government-controlled Kabul radio reported. The radio said the rebel Islamic Taliban militia had

fired 77 rockets into residential areas of Kabul. - Reuter. Investment boost The Trade and Industry Secretary. Ian Lang, signed a science and technology pact with India yesterday designed to help British investors boost

### their presence in India's ex-panding market. — Reuter. **Babies inquiry**

Romanian health authorities have launched an inquiry into the death of six babies in a hospital in the east of the country, the news agency Rompres said. — Reuter.

### Jail riot spreads

Rebellions in Turkish prisons spread yesterday as inmates took more guards hostage and went on hunger strike. In the latest burst of unrest, immates seized six guards in the northwestern city of Bartin, the local prosecutor, Yasar Kizilhan, said. - AP.

### **Dolphins puzzle** The discovery of the decomposing bodies of more than 100 dolphins on the Maurita-

nian coast has puzzled scien-tists. -- Reuter. Meteor explodes

### A flery meteroid streaked over central Japan and blew

up, leading to a wave of worried calls to police. - AP.

### **Drought victims**

An estimated 800,000 nomads have migrated from the Sol have migrated from the son parter of and Sanaag regions of northdering on Ethiopia because of manding cast-iron security drought. — Reuter.

### Sexist shopping

The Malaysian state of Kelantan, ruled by a fundamentalist Islamic party, has decreed that men and women must Perry's comments yesterday stand in separate queues at were more explicit. supermarkets. — Reuter.

# River oil spill outstrips early estimates

The Belaya flows from the

Urals in a loop through most

James Meek in Moscow

N OIL spill into a river in one of Russia's most important energy-producing regions is much bigger than originally thought, it emerged yesterday.

Workers equipped with Russian and foreign-made oil-clearing devices have been struggling for days to contain the pipeline spill into the iced-over Belaya river in the autonomous republic of Bash-kortostan, just west of the southern Urals. "The pipeline's owner seri-

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

THE United States is ready

to station troops to moni-tor peace on the Golan Heights if both Israel and

Syria request them, the US defence secretary, William

Perry, confirmed yesterday.

Peace talks between Israel and Syria resume this month.

After years of stalemate,

there is now unprecedented

optimism on both sides that a

eal can be reached, and the

US, as host and sponsor of the

negotiations, is pushing hard

for yet another Middle East

breakthrough in President

The key issue is the Golan

Heights, which Israel cap-tured in 1967. Syria is de-

manding their return as the

price of peace; Israel, while

In previous ill-fated rounds

of negotiations the US sig-

nalled its willingness in prin-

ciple to contribute troops to a

Golan peacekeeping force. Mr

Clinton's re-election year.

clear that we're dealing with | frozen tundra. But Bashkor | 15 per cent is said to be crude | tonnes of oil leaked away a completely different scale," said Rustem Khamitov, Bashkortostan's environment minister. He did not give an estimate of the real amount.

The Sevodnya television news programme speculated that thousands rather than hundreds of tonnes were in-volved and quoted experts from St Petersburg who had visited the scene as saying they had never seen anything like it.

The accident still appears smaller than the disaster in the Russian Arctic region of Komi in 1994, when anything ously violated the truth when from 14,000 to 300,000 tonnes and has already collected all sian branch of Greenpeace, it said that 100 tonnes of oil of crude oil poured out of a most 700 tonnes of an oil and said the organisation esti-

tween Israel and Syria is

reached, and we hope and be-lieve that will happen, and if

that calls for a peace monitor-

ing force in the Golan

Heights, and if both Israel and

of the republic, passing Since the collapse of the now we have been proved through the capital, UIa, be Soviet Union, oil production fore joining the Volga in neighbouring Tatarstan.

Since the collapse of the now we have been proved right."

Many of President Boris tween 16 vertically-integrated Yeltsin's opponents believe The original leak, discovered just before the New Year,

populated

the river and to have polluted the water supply to dozens of villages near Ufa.

The cleanup team has used suction devices, booms and fires to try to get rid of the oil

local and national politicians was said to have contami-nated 42,000 square yards of but pipelines are run by a different agency, Transpeft.

But the abysmal state of the Russian pipeline system means more leaks and spills are inevitable without heavy investment

Yevgeni Usov. of the Rus-

# fractured pipeline into the water mixture, of which mated that 20-50 million restrictive.

### Perry offers to station peace Guerrilla leader emerges troops on the Golan Heights armed with pipe of peace

### Phil Gunson In Mexico City

Syria request the US to partic-tpate in that, we are prepared to do that," he said after meet-ing the Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres. The US secretary of state, Warren Christopher, visits Jerusalem and Damascus this talks in 1994. Armed only with his

climax.

week in an attempt to maintain the momentum of the talks. During his visit to the Middle East Mr Perry announced two new arms deals He announced a further £120 million for Israel's Arrow missile, designed to de-

stroy tactical missiles. The weapon's joint development is expected to cost £750 million. ● The head of Israel's Shin

Bet secret service, criticised for the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, quit yesterday. The man, identified only by investigated by the state in-"If the peace agreement be | quiry into the assassination.

EXICO'S elusive rebel leader, Subcomandante Marcos, has emerged from his jun-gle hideout for the first time since attending peace

trademark pipe, the man the government identified a year ago as a former university teacher, Rafael Se-bastian Guillén, arrived on Sunday night in San Cristobal de las Casas, where a forum on indigenous rights convened by his Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) was reaching its

Earlier, in the village of La Realidad, in the Lacandon jungle 120 miles from San Cristóbal, the guerrilla leader had surrendered his rifle and pistol in the presence of Bishop Samuel Ruiz, chairman of the medihis first initial, "kaf", is being ation commission, Conai.

Year's Day 1994, with the seizure of San Cristobal and half a dozen other towns in the southern state of Chiapas, that the subcomandante has appeared in public without a gun.
The diminutive "Major
Moisés", another senior

rebel figure, held out a bag into which Marcos dropped his cartridges, one by one. "I have 300 bullets," he warned the army a year ago, "and the last one is for me". That statement was

issued last February, as troops were hunting the Zapatista leader after a warrant for his arrest on terrorism charges was issued. The warrant was later suspended to allow resumption of peace talks, and the army and police have been ordered to protect him until he returns to

It was the first time since | Cristobal. in a 10-vehicle | for "an end to the tutelage the Zapatistas burst on to convoy escorted by the In-

the national scene on New | ternational Red Cross, Marcos congratulated the mediators who, he said, had made possible his presence at the forum and demon-strated that "the path of dialogue should remain the only possible way of resolving the war".

Announcing the results

of the forum, in which representatives of more than 30 indigenous peoples took part, "Comandante Tacho" said the world would now see "that we are not just ethnic groups or communities, but peoples with well-defined characteristics and a central de-

mand — autonomy".
The forum's demands, to be sent to Mexico's legislature, include indigenous control over local economies, justice and internal security, and the restoration of common land rights.

tect him until he returns to La Realidad, probably originally inhabited what today. "We are the peoples who originally inhabited what is now Mexico," said Co-On his arrival in San mandante Tacho, calling

was general secretary of the ruling Hungarian Socialist Workers Party (HSWP) until June 1989, when he became a member of a four-man party presidium which existed for only four months. He wrested power from the veteran communist leader Janos Kadar in May 1988, ending the Kadar era which began when

989, which transformed the reformist HSWP into a Western style Hungarian Socialist Party (HSP). The HSP lost the first free elections in 1990, but regained power in 1994. Grosz remained a communist all his life. He said he was a

Marxist who did not believe in Leninism.
"He is a man who opened the flood gates and got swept away by

she is doing something there that most of the condemned

# The Guardian

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## The death of a president

Mitterrand: hero, despot, socialist, Machiavellian

mies with the same problem which relationship across the Channel. Marperplexed and often enraged them durgaret Thatcher's verdict that Mr Mittering his life; how to sum up a man who defies being summed up. His Machia-essential France" needs elaboration. Indefies being summed up. His Machiavellian skills of maneouvre and the subtle ease with which he evaded definition became a legend: not for nothing was he called "the Florentine." Other labels proved hopelessly inadequate: how could a socialist behave like a despot? Indeed how could the president without whom France's socialist governments would never have made it to power be the same person who presided over their fragmentation? In foreign policy it was much the same. At one moment we applauded: at the next we despaired. Could the same person who propped up some of Africa's most corrupt and genocidal regimes also have intervened personally to bring the first humanitarian aid to Sarajevo? A large shadow of this dilemma

hangs over the formal valedictions which international leaders produced in haste after the news emerged yesterday. Though the event was long anticipated, somehow the phrases rang inconsistently, reflecting more what those who uttered them wished to remember than a rounded truth. Chancellor Kohl's verdict that Mr Mitterrand was "a great patriot and (a great) European" comes close to one strand of it, with a hint too of the tension between the two goals. The political judgment of Norway's Gro Harlem Brundtland, that Mr Mitterrand turned the social democratic movement into "a strong rejuve-nating force", will be disputed by many in the demoralised French socialist party. Tony Blair is right to talk of him as a man of "enormous strength" - but was he really a "source of great inspiration" to the left and centre-left of politics? There is no evidence that the British Labour Party ever made a seri-

FRANCOIS MITTERRAND in dying ous study of their French counterparts has left commentators, friends and ene or sought to build any sort of warm deed he knew how to exercise Gallic charm on the woman whose Marilynlike mouth he once praised. He also knew exactly how to rebuff the glare of her Caligula eyes on which he also remarked. Standing up to the British was as much Mr Mitterrand's contribution to European unity as his well and persistently cultivated relationship with the Germans. Former president Bush chooses to recall how "when push came to shove" Mr Mitterrand stood by the Desert Storm war against Iraq choosing to forget France's earlier efforts, which infuriated the US at the time, to seek a negotiated alternative to the war. There is rich ambiguity too in the Australian prime minister's verdict that Mr Mitterrand was "France's wise last imperial figure." In, he might have

added, a post-imperial age.
In his new year address a year ago Mr Mitterrand said: "I wish you long life at the end of my own. I shall not leave you in spirit, even though it is clear that I must do so physically soon." It was a typical remark, both in its bravery and in its arrogance. Mr Mitterrand's willingness to look death in the face was admirable yet also a measure of his selfobsession. There is no doubt however that he will remain with us in spirit for a long time, if only because we shall be perenially unable to make up our minds about him. More will emerge in time to fill in the still enigmatic blanks in his life from the Vichy period onwards. But perhaps the secret is that there is no final secret. Mr Mitterrand's history, almost like that of his own country, offers such a sweeping panorama that it must baffle as well as amaze. La France,

### **New Labour, new stakeholders**

Feelgood words from Mr Blair, but give him credit for trying

TONY BLAIR's speech to Singapore tive because there is no magic wand ideas from a portfolio of policies into a coherent philosophy. Just as in the 1960s Harold Wilson used the prospect of a new society forged in the 'white heat" of technology to divert the party faithful from nationalisation, so Tony Blair is trying to infuse the party with a new binding moral imperative to replace the dying embers of collectivisation. The Stakeholder Economy is in one sense simply a portmanteau word to embrace a large number of individual initiatives - from putting the longterm unemployed back to work to providing portable pensions - but it is also an attempt to communalise Labour's project and to sublimate the economic insecurity which global economic change, aggravated by Thatcherism, has brought about and to which there may be no instant solution. Where Mrs Thatcher offered a share owning democracy, Mr Blair offers rich and poor a seductive stake in education, welfare, information technology, and corporate governance. All the ideas have powerful antecedents, but gathering them under one all-embracing concept is more than a mere political necessity. If there is one Old Labour virtue that unashamedly shines through, it is equality of opportunity, including the right not to have to spend the rest of your life disintegrating in the dole queue.

businessmen yesterday marks a mile- which a fiscally cautious Blair governstone in the evolution of New Labour's ment can wave. It will probably inherit the best macro-economic framework of any Labour administration (including it seems record North Sea oil output), but that won't stop the global economy from downsizing and marginalising the concept of a secure job. Once globalisation is accepted, it is difficult to turn back the globe on which you turn. It is one thing to talk about creating "a unified society with a strong sense of purpose and direction" and building a trust relationship in firms; but in practice it is like asking for a culture transplant. Cynics can reel out a depressing catalogue of past pre-electoral panaceas which never fulfilled their promise including nationalisation, privatisation, technological change, monetarism and reduced government spending. However, the daunting nature of the problem should not prevent fresh solutions being tried. New Labour's macro-economic policy won't be much different from John Major's and its headroom will be even more constrained if it signs up for the single currency. On micro-economic policy he has a number of interesting initiatives which could have a significant effect. Changing society itself may be beyond the power of one man or one government, but merely to alter direction from the self-interested, anti-communitarian cul-de-sac along which the nation has

New Labour needs a moral impera-

been bounced against its will would be a liberation worth waiting for.

### Al Mas'ari and the Vickers worker

Freedom of speech? Try telling that to a lathe-operator!

COLUMNISTS are paid to have strong opinions, and strong opinions are a spicy part of the brew which sells newspapers. But the dividing line between principle and perversity can sometimes be as muddy as a January football pitch, especially when a liberal voice temporarily mislays its normally trusty compass.

Admirers of Ian Jack's column in the Independent on Sunday awoke to find just such a confusion at the weekend. Reflecting on the Al-Mas'ari deportation, Mr Jack observed that the rest of the liberal press had taken an uncompromising stand. The Home Office's action had been variously denounced as stinking, rotten, ludicrous and craven. Mr Jack however felt uneasy that "editorialists and other moralists" had too readily written off the British jobs and wages apparently at stake in the Government's decision to expel the Saudi dissident from these shores.

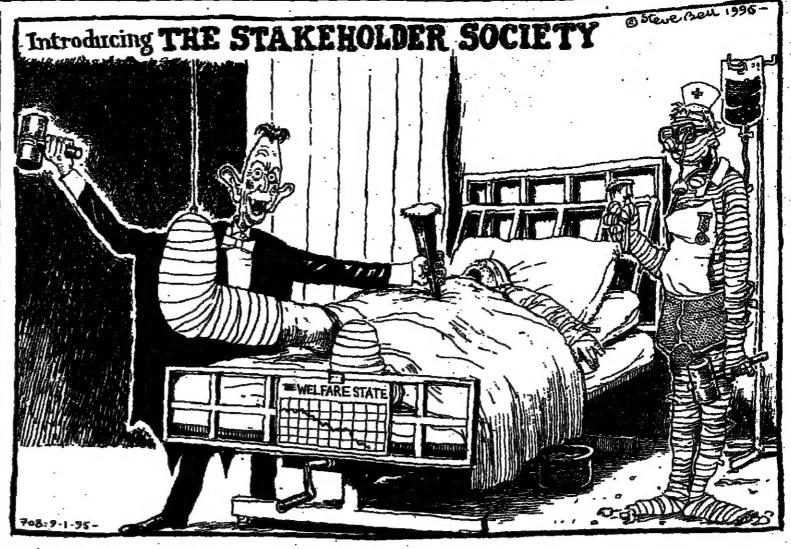
surviving heartbeats of British indusstitute "a necessary shame"? To underthe liberal editorialist faced with exlickers tank factory" why it was neces-Mr al-Mas'ari should remain in Willes-

This would be a difficult assignment. says Mr Jack. But that hardly justifies abandoning the attempt. Imagine how indignantly the IoS columnist, one of the most unbending defenders of Salman Rushdie, might react if the man on the lathe demanded that the novelist should be sacrificed so that his factory did not lose its Iranian orders. Not that such a situation would arise. The Government stood firm on Rushdie, Just as it could have done on Al-Mas'ari too.

In order to preserve one of the few try, he mused, might the case not conline his reservations, Mr Jack invited us to imagine the problems confronting plaining to "the man on the lathe at the sary for him to lose his job in order that den undisturbed

> Lottery last week, that is a higher turn out than in any election I can recall. Would more of the electorate be induced to vote if ballot papers were printed in the form of scratch cards? Or would politicians find the comparisons too

Richard Evans.



### Letters to the Editor

OS Coward is right (Comment page, January 8): the BFT's primary responsibility should not be to a metropolitan elite. As the person who has joined the BFI most recently, and therefore cannot take credit for the changes. I can testify that it has broken with its old image and reached out well beyond the London elite to popular new audiences younger and spread right across the country.

That is what BFI TV and Connolaseur Video are all about — making the best available to new audiences in new ways. Martin Scorsese's A Personal Journey through American Movies was made for Channel 4 by BFI TV. Not only was it chosen by the Guardian's TV critic as one of the five best programmes of 1995, but it also touched a popular audience of over one million viewers. Isn't this doing precisely what Ros Coward says we should?

And when the BFTs 1995 London Film Festival enjoys a record audience of 100,000, does that sound as if the institute wants to cloister itself away with a few old structuralists and while away its time? It does not matter whether it is the Museum of the Mov-London attraction in 1995) or our library, which last year answered more than 30,000 inquiries; the whole of the BFI is actively engaging with a wide variety of audiences across Britain. It is hard to be an élite institution (that is, one that wants to be the best) and yet serve the widest range of audiences. But that is our ambition and it is in the process of being realised. We know that. It is a pity Ros Coward does not. Jane Clarke.

Assistant Director. British Film Institute. London WIP 2LN

### Waiting for Lotto

| WORK as an NHS manager in the West Midlands, a region which now guarantees a maximum waiting time of nine months (Letters, January 8). But since any hospital manager who admits to breaching the guarantee faces the sack, there are strong pressures on staff to use a long-waiters from published figures. The number of pa tients "suspended" from waiting lists has recently increased markedly. Patients are also given "personal treat-ment plans" which let hospi-tals remove them from published figures. If all else fails, hospitals simply falsify statis-tical returns to the NHS Man-

igement Executive. Waiting-list statistics will only regain credibility when their production is free from political pressure, perhaps under an independent Gov ernment Statistical Service. Name and address supplied.

WHAT a wonderful oppor-tunity for the Millen-nium Fund to prove its worth by acquiring Lands End and John O'Groats (Life on the edge, January 8). It could then, by creating car parks several hundred yards away, return them to their "natural" beauty and make them freely accessible to all.

39 High Street. Feckenham, Redditch, Worcs.

F 90 per cent of us played the

33 Fordington Avenue, Winchester, Hants.

# Film through a wide-angle lens Battle hymns of the republic

OY HATTERSLEY'S argument against the anachronistic monarchy is fine (About time we grew up, January 5); but where do you stop when looking at anachronisms within any expersion exchang With a our governing system? With a democracy which gives power to the people for one to two days every five years? Per-haps that was acceptable in the slower-moving world of the Victorians, but surely not now where technology rules

the planet, shrinking dis-tances and harnessing time. And MPs are elected to sit, if they can find a space to sit, in their own theme park in Westminster and throw metaphorical sticky buns at each other until the small hours. We all know this, Whitehall farce has little to do with how we are governed today. Clare O'Brien. 23 Warbeck Road. London W12 8NS.

ATTERSLEY condemns the monarchy as "an aspect of our constitution which is rationally indefensible but kept in place by subservience". Yet he could address the same objection to the uncodified and unaccountable discretionary powers of min-isters. These are inherited from the Crown prerogative and too often abused by "ma-joritarian" party governments supported by only a minority of the popular vote. Let's not maintain the "existing executive authority of government and legislative power of Parliament" but seek radical surgery here too. Chris Lamb. 95 Charlton Road, Midsomer Norton, Bath BA3 4AQ.

Commission set me to wondering whether a proposal to establish a royal family would meet with its approval. This would assume the country would already be in a state of republican bliss. On the basis of the directions for bidding laid down by the Commission, could such an Commission, could such an application be said to have "lean overheads for project delivery"? Could one really establish that the proposal would have "public benefit and not be for commercial reasons", that it would be "sustainable, physically and financially" and that it could "demonstrate local public amount"? support"?
David Cockayne.

63 Charles Street, Newark, Notts NG24 1RN. WELCOME to the republican camp, elder states-man Hattersley. And where was Cabinet Minister Hattersley on this issue a couple of decades ago? Why, keeping his head down, just like his government-in-waiting successors of today.

And to what will future Guardian readers most likely further two monarchical decades? Why, comparable outpourings from elder statesman Blair. Geoffrey N Armitage. Norheim, Dufftown,

Banffshire AB55 4AR.

THE otherwise excellent article has a single flaw. Roy Hattersley refers to "Lord St John of Fawsley". Yet he writes that "People who ought to know better join

Deference destroys democ-racy at every level, and the Windsors are merely one end of a system that runs throughout our society. The existence of titles — whether hereditary or bestowed — undermines the potential for equality of opportunity for all of us. I suggest a Campaign for Real Names whose members

- including sympathetic newspapers - refuse to use the titles promulgated by those who wish to set themselves apart from the rest of us. Mr Stevas, Mr and Mrs Windsor (senior and juniors) and Mr Hattersley may then be able to compete on equal grounds to be heard on any subject — the only justifica-tion for publication being that what they have to say is more important than who says it. Nigel Gann.

144 Obelisk Road, Woolston, Southampton SO19 9DP.

AS Britain's monarchy be-comes an overrated scap opera, what is underrated is the guilibility of the public. closeted in its media culture. The sexual cavortings, and insanities of previous PO Box 1935 British monarchs put the present royal infidelities and estrangements into nursery tale land. Whatever ritual camouflage or symbolic se-crecy is left to the royals has been stripped away to reveal just another post-modern.

ed-up family. The public expects and the media present. It is a game created by our monoculture media masters, who are not

THE recent refusal of funds to the Cardiff Bay Opera royal family) are intrinsically rules of fair play but sanctisuperior human beings." concerned with egalitarian rules of fair play but sanctimoniously accuse all those they scapegoat. Neil Littlewood.

Flat I, 13 Rochdale Way, London SE8 4LY.

ATTERSLEY suggests that if this country follows Ireland's example we could elect a president of the calibre of Mary Robinson. We could alternatively em-ulate the Czech Republic and elect a leading playwright Alan Bennett for president! John O'Dwyer. Bedford Road, Houghton Regis,

Beds LU5 5QS. ATTERSLEY seems to be convinced that any president would have to be a politician. Yet people who are publicly popular over a long term
like Vera Lynn, Ernie
Wise, Brian Rix or Paul McCariney — would be excel-lent for the decorative pur-poses for which non-elected heads of state are required: opening things and going on foreign goodwill trips. She or

he could do it for a fixed term

and a reasonable salary.

Woodgreen, Hants.

WE DON'T need a presi-dential head of state, be it Tebbit, Healey or the sed Mary Robinson. We can simply employ a member of the present royal family at, say, the pay rate of an MP. John Sanger. Red Cottage,

### What's that in your pocket?

HOSE who were shocked | its Celtic Cross, is strangely THOSE who were snocked by the news of new bime-tallic \$2 coins (Eurospectic ire over new 52 coin that looks frankly French, December 9) may well be critical later this year of new concave commemorative coins for the European Football Championship. But I can assure them that these appear to be, in modern times, a wholly Brit-ish unnovation. Although concave coins were quite common in Byzantium, and not unknown in mediaeval Germany, the most ancient prede-cessors were some decidedly concave coins of the Ancient

More curious is the case of 26 Warwick Street, the 1996 £1 coin which, with Oxford OX4 1SX.

cited for personal injury and race discrimination are not comparable. It is wrong to suggest that to be called an

worth only £22,500. The former included compensation for financial losses and illness stemming from the discrimination as well as injury to feelings. The discrimination in that case went way beyond the one comment. The award quoted for the loss of an eye refers only to the pain and suffering element — use.

different from the usual run of heraldic coins. However, in the Middle Ages the vast majority of English coins, as well as many continental ones, featured a cross in a cirstrikingly, the new coin resembles the "wheel money" of certain pre-Christian Celtic tribes. Found in the Alps, these coins are not flat with a design, but actually 3D cast objects. Yet each of these little "spoked wheels" is almost identical in shape to the Celtic Cross on our new-fangled pound. Roger Moreton

Injury to insult doesn't add up

YOU rightly point out the discrepancy between libel added to the £22,500 figure. damages and personal injury cases (Peg libel awards to per-sonal injury pay-outs, Janu-ary 4). However, the awards

The race-discrimination ex amples are not typical. Often as little as £750 is awarded for the distress, hurt feelings and psychological damage for racial abuse at work. This does little to deter race harassers. "Irish prat" is worth £20,000 Mary Stacey. Brian Thompson & Partners whereas the loss of an eye is Solicitors, Congress House, London WC1B 3LW.

> Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a daytime telephone number. We may ed letters. We regret we cannot acknowledge those we do not

### UN election needs monitoring

THE visit this week to Lon-Non-Governmental Organisa don of Dr Boutros Boutros tions recognised by the UN Ghali for the commemoration of the first meeting of the UN General Assembly in 1946 must focus minds on the question of his successor. Dr Bou-tros-Ghali's term of office ends on December 31. When he was appointed he stated that he would not seek re-election. What is needed now is some democratic discussion, both about possible candidates and selection procedures. Secret iobbying is going on, particu-larly within the Security Council "We the Peoples ...." are not being consulted.

Britain, as a permanent member, has both positive opportunities and a negative brake in the veto. Perhaps the

tions recognised by the UN might be invited to suggest candidates? By involving NGOs now, the British government could help to avoid any last-minute rush to ap-point Dr Boutros-Ghali's Bruce Kent Forum for UN Renewal Pax Christi UN Association Lib Peck.

National Peace Council Anna Rehin. international Peace Bureau Janet Bloomfield. CND.

c/o 162 Holloway Road, London NT 8DQ.

### **A Country Diary**

area of 2.8 million sq km, and stretching 3,500km from north to south, Argentina is the eighth largest country in the world, almost the size of India. On a four-week tour, we travelled between the small Andean town of Abra Pampa high up on the Altiplano in the north west, down to the southernmost tip at Ushuaia -- "world's end" on Tierra del Fuego, passing through subtropical rainfor-est, high altitude deserts and high latitude steppes, humid temperate grasslands, alpine and sub-Antarctic forests and rugged coastal cliffs. Con-scious of the need to preserve these sensitive environments, Argentina has created an extensive system of national parks, one of the first in Latin America, dating back to the turn of the century, added to which are many important provincial parks and reserves. We stayed in a number of these protected areas during our visit, each with its own range of habitats and distinctive occupants - the

ARGENTINA: With a land | high peaks of the Andes and the wild vacuna on the puna below; toucans in the Iguazu rainforest; whales, elephant seals and magellanic penguins around the Valdez peninsular; and black-browed albatrosses following our boat down the Beagle Channel. If I had to choose one lasting memory from so many it would be my first encounter with a glacier, the awesome Moreno glacier which is the dominant feature of the Parque Nacional Los Glacieres in the Santa Cruz province of Patagonia. One of the few glaciers in the world that is still advancing, it has been created over thousands of years by snow, compacted under tremendous weight, recrystallising into ice and flowing eastward through the Fitzroy range of the Andes. Its visible face is 60 metres high, and to stand on the boardwalk beside it, listening to the creaks and groans, then the sudden explosion as a large chunk collapses, is as much an audible as visual experience.

J M THOMPSON

majestic condor patrolling the

**EANWHILE**, these are not amusing times for Arts Council Chairman Lord Gowrie. whomust soon announce closures of, and reduced incomes for, theatres. How-ever, I can exclusively report how Lord Gowrie is spending some of what little money he still controls. He has firected it to seminars atmed at training theatre staff (the RSC's among them) how to cosset their punters. Or, to translate into the Arts Council's own sub Birtean argot, "Cus-tomer Orientated Mission Statement and Strategy Systems". It may sound silly, says an official, but it is, in fact, "a long-term strat-egy". Could you could make it up? Probably not.

**EHOSE** who persist in sneering at the intel-lect of the British bobby must think again. Two CID officers who left their jumbo tin of coffee briefly unattended in Wath, South Yorkshire, opened it later to find an alarming foreign subtance. Frantic enquiries ensued, reports Police Magazine, and the manufacturers were warned of sabotage. Eventu ally, the truth emerged. Having helped themselves to the coffee, certain uniformed coppers sought to disguise the deficiency by copping into what coffee remained an unopened can of musby peas.

AM speechless with excitement. My old friend Derek Thompson, the ce-retral Channel 4 Racing presenter, is to be married. TV's Thommo, 45, will wed Julie Corbin on June 22, according to my so-called rival, Nigel Dempster, in the down-market Daily Mail. The couple, Dempster relates, have been celebrat-Thommo commentates at race meetings at Nad Al Sheba and Jebel Ali, comniting from Newmarket to the United Arab Emirates". renarkably long day — especially so since Thommo, budyed up by his gallant second to a small dog in the Great Tipster Stakes, reains his 0891 tipping lim. However, love has judge from yesterday's form
— lis selection at Southwell was unplaced and the top tip was due to run at a meeting thit was called off at the last minute. Let us pray that the welding, at which both Stotoe and myself will be fers, avoids the same

needs monitor

HE late François Mitterrand famously said of Lady Thatcher that sh had "the eyes of Caligly Monroe", but his de-sciptions of her sucessor's appearance, an those of his Cabinet, wil go with him to the gr ve. Or will they? Read-er with secret knowledge of ditterrand's verdicts on M Major, Michael Howard Ms Bumley and the rest ar invited to share them with the rest of us. The usal prize for the three wittiet. Graham Kelly need nd apply.



# Why hypocrisy is really good for us

# Commentary

### Hugo Young

HEN Malcolm Rifkind sits down in Beiling today with the Chinese foreign minister, we can safely say which man will feel the more enraged. Maybe Rifkind will avverience some Rifkind will experience some revulsion at yet more evidence, to be screened on Channel 4 tonight, of barbaric practice in Chinese orphan-ages. But he will contain himself.

Qian Qichen will express his fury at this slight. The embassy in London, revealing that even old cold war cliches do not always fade away, has already said the programme "will harm the mutual understanding between the Chinese people and Britain". It wants the film withdrawn. That would probably be Rif-kind's preference also. Moral

disapproval of what China does has long since been dis-placed, if it ever seriously existed, by alarm at the power China is perceived to possess over the British economy,

Tony Blair should ignore

Hong Kong or directly through the trade contracts that have become the prime goal of British diplomacy. Demonising China is no part of the Rifkind script. Embar-rassment does not touch him from doing business with child-destroyers and system-atic repressers of political rights. Embarrasament derives only from the inconvenient spectacle for all the This discrepancy is now so

naked that it calls attention to a new phenomenon of high politics: the waning of hypoc-risy. The Foreign Secretary offers no apology for the sup-plicancy of his attitude to China. Making any deal con-ditional on some improve-ment supp. of a symbolic ment, even of a symbolic kind, in China's observance of human rights is a proposi-tion too laughable to contemplate. Likewise the notion that arms sales to Saudi Ara bia, a country where even minimal human rights exist only at the whim of the oligarchs in power, might be a suitable matter for debate.

In the waning of hypocrisy the words of Ann Widde combe signal the richest mo ment. To justify the expulsion from Britain of Mohammed al-Mas'ari, she did not ever pretend this was other than at the behest of the Saudis. No dressing-up in cryptic references to Mas'ari's general un- arms deals, and soft loans to

whether indirectly through desirability. No grand expul-through the trade contracts instead, the minister admits defence of which no abasement before Saudi displeasure is too humiliating. This may yet cause the Govern-ment trouble in the courts, where Mas'ari is taking his case. But the minister has shown the Fahds and Sultans where Major's heart is. She has also told the truth: a mer-ciful release from the duplica-ties obtaining when arms sales and political decency al-

ways and everywhere were al-

leged to co-exist.
Such pretences have not entirely stopped. The Foreign Office continues to issue codes of good government and the sainted Lady Chalker parades the world insisting that these represent pre-con-ditions of British aid. Nigeria and Kenya, grotesquely traducing human rights and democratic process, have felt the consequences in their pockets. But not much. Even was but perfunctorily regret-ted. Elsewhere, reinforcing dictators is the shameless purpose of British diplomacy tive case. Recently rated by the Berlin watchdog, Trans-parency International, as the most corrupt country in the world, Indonesia has been succoured for years with

assist their making, by British ministers never known to have criticised a particle of Indonesia's disregard for basic democracy. Indeed, it was when signing a soft loans deal in Jakarta in 1993 that Douglas Hurd, the most sophisticated exponent of the new, unvarnished amorality, opined that making links between aid and human rights was not a "sensible and fruit-indeed in the superior right of an Islamic exile to de-stabilise the regime that buys the tanks. Disclaiming moral virtue quality, can be a salutary of the truth. If William Waldegrave, in 1989, had felt able to be as candid as Ann Widdecombe today, and defied Parliament to forbid an open shift in the guidelines governing arms sales to Iraq, more than half the charge sheet ras not a "sensible and fruitful thing to do".
Since morality is so plainly

an inconvenience to policy-makers, there is something to the language of international politics. Its impositions so often prove unsustainable. Campaigning for the presi-dency in 1992, Bill Clinton promised to raise the tariffs on Chinese goods as a way of bringing pressure on Beijing to respect the human rights of Chinese and Tibetans. By 1994 he had reneged on the pledge

Isn't it a relief to be spared the posturings of politicians who pretend?

We now know the primacy of trade means that China's internal regime can be tight ened with impunity. So isn't it a relief to be spared the disngenuous posturings of poli ticians who would otherwise continue to pretend they care about what happens in a Shanghai orphanage!

There are other merits to such a shift in the framework. It may, for one thing, be popular. Ranging the free speech of Mohammed al-Mas'ar against job security at the Vickers tank plant, nobody could be certain that the

than half the charge sheet being examined by the Scott Inquiry would never have ex-isted. Arguably, the major part of the Iraq scandal de-rives from a denial that was not only untrue but, by the In the end, there's a level of realism to which one resists

so smoothly descending. Hy-pocrisy may be offensive, but it has the irreplaceable virtue of keeping alive a set of public values. Without values to aspire to, there are no values to betray. Declaring an absence of moral aspiration is a con-venient way of disclaiming the need for cant, but it also surrenders any concept of in-ternational responsibility save that of devil take the hindmost Britain is not alone in this. What the world announces when it abandons pretence is that it has also abandoned the struggle to do

ally, for the primacy of morality over short-term economics the world hadn't asserted such a primacy against apartbe in revolutionary turmoil.

And if, as the Widdecombe

(actually the Howard-Major) doctrine declares, the abdica-tion of morality to economics extends beyond the fortresses of Saudi Arabia and China into the values our own country is now supposed to uphold for itself, then give me the spur of old hypocrisy

# You've got to be carefully taught to bully



Beatrix Campbell

Bitch" was everyday life for 13-year-old Gauri Vedhara, one of the players in Byker Grove, voted best children's TV soap last year. Only when the alchemy of racism and sexism com-busted, and her tormentors threatened to beat her up, did she tell her mother, who told

Gauri lives in Gosforth a middle-class enclave of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. She goes to Gosforth High, a school which prides itself on being a calm community of high achievers.

Her mother, Kusan Ved-hara, had noticed that Gauri — a star in her local world — seemed to be ailing, losing both sleep and weight. She kept Gaurt off school and demanded something be done. Gauri's crisis synchronised with fierce attacks by white boys on children in and out of the school gates. The school was acquiring the reputation of a working-class war zone. Black leaders' fruitless efforts to engage the police and the school suddenly found an ear when the parents of 20 black children withdrew them from Gosforth High last term until their safety could be secured. Ac-cording to their advocate, Davender Ghai, president of the Hindu Sikh Friendship Society, complaints to the school yielded little. "The parents tried to see the head about

or unobtainable. Then he said it was just bullying nothing racial. And bullying goes on everywhere."
But when Mr Ghai reported white boys ambushing Asian children at the local Metro station, and when a posse of white boys scaled the school fence and laid into a team of Asian boys on a sports field, "then the head realised it was

racialism but he was too busy

racial". According to the headmaster, Keith Nancekieville: "Gosforth High is a relaxed and comfortable community and in that context it is not always easy to get people to address fundamental things, like bullying, and particu-larly racism. These events have given us the mandate to

have conversations."
It seems that the aggressors were expelled or truant boys. But a former pupil, not one of its "high achievers", remembers the culture of disrespect that alienated "failures" like his own assailants. "Like me, they weren't A-level material.
And the school didn't do enough for them — or me. We weren't valued. It is the self-

school's hierarchy that makes these things go on." Gauri Vedhara's challenge also exposes the limits of the Government's law-and-order strategy for schools: its anti-bullying pack. Don't Sufffer in Silence, prompted by exem-plary research by Peter Smith

ish, elitist motivations of the

and Sonia Sharp at Sheffield University. The Government stresses the importance of speaking out. But the bullying helpline organised by ChildLine in 1994 received calls from 58,000 children in eight months — possibly 58,000 children who weren't telling their parents or their

Their suffering tells us what we should surely know — that reigns of terror rely on the silence of the victim, who will deny things as deter-minedly as the perpetrator. And still the Government disconnects the culture of bullying from the mainstream op pressions that sustain it.

The rise of the rhetoric about bullying shadows the decline of anti-racist and antisexist strategies, derided and discarded as political correctness. Except in London, where they have changed the language and lore of educa-tion, they barely exist beyond the equal-opportunities protocols required by Ofsted that often languish, unattended, in the head's filing cabinets.

Eighty per cent of the child-ren who called ChildLine were, like Gauri, girls. And yet the Department for Education says it has no strategy against sexism. "It is endemic and rampant in schools," says a veteran Tyneside teacher. don't have a class in which there aren't difficult or dangerous boys."

Their models? Their own teachers. "The men in the staff room behave like bullies, routinely being large and menacing. Every teacher every day is victimised by bullying boys — but the men don't see it as bullying be-cause what would that tell them about their own masculinity? The men routinely shout. They are part of the culture of bullying. And they routinely refer to girls as slags and bitches. If they get bad and bullying behaviour

from a girl, then she's a slag or a bitch." Her school proudly pro-claims its equal-opportunities policy. "But we've never ever discussed it." Gosforth High doesn't have an anti-sexist parents demanded that their children's safety be secured had racism been targeted. Anti-bullying strategies are doomed to fail if they don't define and deal with mainstream tyrannies.

"Our research found that while bullying attacks an individual, other prejudices attack identities," explains Sonia Sharp. She speculates that if anti-bullying policies don't specify racism and sexism, "then that is where the bullying will go — it's com-

# Stake that claim



the stakeholder economy and society is that it is little more than Thatcherism in drag, just another way of talk-ing about popular capitalism or the enterprise culture. The right is no more forgiving. The dynamics of capitalism are immutable and brook no reform. Tony Blair will find that championing stakehold-ing is no easy ride; he has entered the political battle of ideas with a vengeance.

But the stock criticisms are wrong. Like it or hate it, stake-holding does represent a different political economy of capitalism with profound implications for economic, social and political organisation. It stresses that workers should be seen as members of firms rather than locked into an antagonistic confrontation between capital and labour. in this world view, firms are social organisations embedrights and moral obligations. I macy of individual choice. This may have been good | defending it from authoritar | again.

the left to the idea of commodities bought and sold on the stock market, that undermines the trust and reciprocity of obligation on

ductivity thrive.
Too much fracturing and tiering of society in the quest for simple economic efficiencies is ultimately socially unsustainable — and that spills over into the sustainability of economic growth. Social citibership are interdependent but this links up with political citizenship. An active par-ticipative democracy goes hand in hand with underpinning social cohesion and pro-moting stakeholder firms.

These are no platitudes. A different vocabulary opens up - social inclusion, membership, trust, co-operation, longtermism, equality of opportu-nity, participation, active citizenship, rights and obligations - in sharp contrast to the right's language of optingded in a complex skein of out, privatisation, the pri- promoted by the right.

HE snap reaction of | and if they are reduced to | maximisation of shareholder value and the "burden" of welfare and social costs. Behind the vocabulary lies a different value system, a different view of what makes a successful market economy tick — and a dramatically different approach to eco-nomic and social policy.

Corporate law, the organi-sation of pensions, systems of training company decision-making the behaviour of the Stock Exchange and the role of education are markedly different in a stakeholder world. The international evidence, as Blair said in Singapore, is that this approach delivers social cohesion and economic growth; the two feed off each other. By pinning his colours to the stakeholder mast, Blatr has taken a decisive political step. New Labour has now enlisted a substantial and novel body of ideas: it stands in sharp opposition to the laissez-faire, financially-driven model of capitalism

lished in 1967, aided and abet-ted by Robin Marris, author of the Theory of Managerial Capitalism, that the idea first gained economic and political currency. During the seven-ties, American corporate raiders complained that com-panies were cynically appeal-ing to stakeholder interests to obstruct takeovers and limit shareholders' rights (a com-plaint they still make). But as no US politician has at-tempted to organise the ideas into a legislative programme, stakeholding has not pro-gressed much beyond encour-aging worker share owner-ship through Employee Stock Ownership Plans.

Ownership Plans. In Germany, the social market ideas developed by left theorists in opposition to fascism and communism had of the firm as a social organisation with long-term stakeholders, which operated in highly competitive markets. The welfare state was seen as a protective social instrument to promote social inclusion, society is a key moment — a and allow capitalism its way of binding the centre and much-needed flexibity to build up and run down industries without worrying about cal impetus for important economic and social emperature. the social consequences. The nomic and social return, political purpose was the Blair went to Australia this same as Galbraith's: to secure Christmas with no advisers the fecundity of capitalism and a suttease of books. On whilst humanising it - and this evidence he should go

never taken off before. The post-war settlement was a compromise, allowing the eff to achieve its social goals through raising public spend-ing and extending public ownership, but leaving the right to protect City freedoms and the ancient notion that the firm represented no more than the shareholders' interests. The case for stakeholding was left to fringe groups campaigning for worker par-ticipation and co-operatives. But with the instruments of Old Labour collapsing, and the right building on the laissez-faire model, the most promising avenue for the left is stakeholding.

The TUC has recognised this for some time, and Gen-eral Secretary John Monks has established a task force to

ianism of the left and right.
In Britain the whole debate

suggest legislative proposals and ways the unions might profit. The Dahrendorf Com-mission on Wealth Creation and Social Cohesion came out firmly in favour of stakeholding last summer. Tony Blair's has been tantalisingly slow to adopt it publicly but the Singapore speech is a watershed. It establishes authentically left credentials, blindsides his opponents and has a reforming sting. Witness just one passage. "It is surely time," he said, "to assess how we shift the emphasis in corporate ethos — from the company being a mere vehicle for the control of the cont traded, bought and sold as a commodity — towards a vicommonly — towards a vi-sion of the company as a com-munity or partnership in which each employee has a stake, and where the company's responsibilities are more clearly delineated."
Michael Portillo immediately attacked this as a straight copy of long-standing Conservative policy - but it

market capitalism for commoditising companies and workers, or proposing a clear delineation of corporate rights and obligations. Isn't the Conservative idea to pro-mote deregulation and to regard stock-market freedoms as sacreor

But Blair's advocacy of
what he calls the Stakeholder
Welfare System may arouse
more concern. There is a clear accent on social cohe-sion and the necessity to recast the welfare state so it ceases to offer an obstacle to training or self-employment, and it is equally attractive to open up collective means of self-insurance to allow individuals to produce pensions or sickness benefit above the basic levels. The danger, though, is also clear. Singa-

is difficult to recall a Conser-

vative politician ever indicting the operation of stock-market capitalism for

panying need for a redistributive tax system. Yet in sum the commitment to a stakeholder economy and

pore-type provident funds could be progressively used to

replace existing welfare

structures, with their accom-

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of Community

# A maker of modern France

French, and European, political stage one of its most tenacious leading men. He will be remembered as the leftwing President of France who in his two terms of office between 1981 and 1995 educated French socialism into an appower in a post-Marxist age and who sought to convince his fellow citizens that European integration was the means to fulfil France's self-proclaimed mission to lead

His election to the presidency in 1981 was the culmination of a political odyssey that had started 35 years ear lier and had survived set-backs which would have destroyed a less single-minded ambition. His career com-bined moments of great national popularity with long periods in which he was dis-trusted, and even despised, as scheming and unprincipled

Towards the end of his second term, he became the most unpopular president in the history of the Fifth Repub-lic. The publicising of his links during the second world war with the collaborationist Vichy regime, and even more of his enduring friendship with René Bouquet, who in 1942 had supervised the rounding up of the Paris Jews, caused utter dismay to those who had regarded him as the champion of Republi-can values. The verdict of pos-terity is likely to be kinder and to place him, alongside General de Gaulle, as a key figure in the creation of mod-

The comparison with de Gaulle is one that never failed to infuriate the general's aco-lytes, for whom Mitterrand personified the corrupt political class which had done so much damage to France before the advent of the Fifth Republic and which under-stood nothing of national grandeur. Yet there are similarities between the two men. They shared an olympian manner; a deep interest in literature and history; the capacity to behave with cold ruthlessness towards opponents; and a refusal to acknowledge the right of the United States to determine the foreign policy of its allies. the foreign policy of its allies. Above all, Mitterrand taught the French left to accept the de Gaulle after 1958.

Little in Mitterrand's background suggested the future course of his career. Born in 1916 in the small village of larnac, near Cognac in the Charente department, he was one of eight children and grew up in a family that was Catholic. He did not rebel against this background either as a schoolboy or as a law student in Paris and to the extent that he was involved in the frenetic politics of 1930s France, his sympathies unquestionably lay with the nationalist right rather than with the leftwing causes of the Popular Front or the Spanish Civil War.

The second world war was the making of Mitterrand. He fought, and was decorated for bravery, in the disastrous 1940 campaign that led to the fall of France, Like de Gaulle prisoner by the Germans. Un-like de Gaulle he managed to escape from captivity, aided perhaps by his unremarkable physical appearance, and returned to France. What happened next provides the kground to the first great controversy surrounding his career. Mitterrand became an important resistance leader and took part in the liberation of Paris in August 1944. But he also accepted employcollaborationist Vichy gov-ernment and was awarded the regime's medal of honour, the Francisque. To his enemies this showed the duplicitous opportunism that characterised his whole career, to his his intelligence in finding a cover for his resistance work.

Mitterrand emerged from the war with a wife, Danielle, daughter of a resistance leader, to whom he stayed married despite an almost legendary series of affairs and one night stands, and with the determination to make politics his career. Crucially, the war defined Mitterrand as an opponent of the two principal forces of the New France -Gaullism and communism. At a memorably unsuccessful meeting with de Gaulle in Algiers, he refused to acknowledge the latter's authority over the resistance movemen he ran, an act of insubordination that the general neither forgot nor forgave. At the same time, however, he resisted the smothering embrace of the French Communist Party which had emerged as France's largest and most politically correct, political movement. This double

HE death of Fran | sequent career. By the age of cois Mitterrand | 30, Mitterrand was estabtious, and independentminded, professional politician. Elected to the minded. National Assembly in November 1946 for the largely rural department of the Nièvre, he retained his seat for all but three of the next 85 years and acquired the local power base - mayor of Château-Chinon member of the departmental council - that all French pol iticians regard as a vital political resource. In January 1947, he became the younges government minister this century and he subsequently served in 11 cabinets during the Fourth Republic. No one doubted his intelligence or his capacity for hard work; what was queried was the integrity of his convictions. He was a leader of a small centrist party, the UDSR, that was more notable for the op-portunistic bargaining of its parliamentary votes than for the solidity of its beliefs. He was distrusted by the

democratic left for his willingness to lock up Algerian nationalists once the war of independence began in 1954 and by the nationalist right for his Europeanism and his support for self-government for France's sub-Saharan colonies. To his immense cha grin, even Pierre Mendès France, the hero of progressive France, seemed willing as prime minister to give credence to unfounded rumours that his interior minister might be a communist agent. This period gave Mitterrand his reputation for Machiavellian cunning and the most enduring of his nicknames, "the Florentine". Yet to say that his name was made by the Fourth Republic is a dubious accolade, given the regime's collapse in the face of decay at home and insurrection in Algeria. With the exception of Mendes France, none of the politicians most identified with it was ever fully rehabil-

### No one has doubted his intelligence; what was queried was his integrity

itated. What saved Mitterrand, apart from his youth and talent, was paradoxically his absolute refusal to compromise with the new political order established by de Gaulle in 1958. He opposed de Gaulle's

ous pamphlet, Le Coup d'Etat Permanent, denounced the authoritarian nature of the new Fifth Republic. In the short term, this opposition cost him dear. He lost his National Assembly seat in the 1958 elections: was refused entry to a new leftwing grouping, the Parti Socialiste Autonome; and was nearly destroyed in 1959 by a scandal in which he was accused, falsely as it much later — transpired, of setting up a fake assassination attempt. He was to be out of office for 23 years. Yet his resolute opposition to de Gaulle's republic enabled him to drape himself in the clothes of French democratic republicanism and to begin the process of alliance-build-ing with the leftwing parties and movements that had hith-erto rejected him. He brought to the fragmented and dispirited elements of the non-communist left not only his own eloquence, energy and pro-claimed commitment to France's republican traditions, but also a shrewd appreciation of the realities of power. Most important, he of-fered the left a strategy for winning power that required it to accept the directly elected presidency as the key political prize in the new in-stitutional order and to unite its forces behind a single candidate. The aim was left unity, and he was to be its architect.

Mitterrand's long march to power through the institutions of the Fifth Republic began with the 1965 presiden-tial contest. His very isolation made him an acceptable (be-cause expendable) stalking horse for the big battalions of the communist and socialist parties, in a contest which everyone expected de Gaulle to win easily. And win he did - but narrowly. The 45 per cent of the vote that Mitterrand won in round two suggested that there might be political life after de Gaulle and established his own position as the leader of the opposition to the regime. His subsequent strategy was dedicated to developing and consolidating his position as its guardian. In 1971 he engineered the sort of political operation at which

Toughness and imperturbability . . . Mitterrand survived charges of corruption but his haughty manner caused resentment Socialist Party, a position he held for 10 years. Under his supervision, the party be-came the vehicle for a generathe party betion of political talents and ambitions, who fell under the spell of a leader who could combine inspirational warmth with chilling remoteness. In 1972 he negotiated an electoral and programmatic alliance with the still powerful Communist Party. enabled him to mount an im-pressive second bid for the presidency after Pompidou's death in 1974. In a thrilling per cent of the vote to the non-Gaullist conservative Giscard d'Estaing. When he told his voters that "your victory is inevitable", he was also thinking of himself.

These high points were, however, matched by lows

that on more than one occasion seemed to leave him politically dead. He came very badly out of the events of May 1968, being rejected by radicals as just another machine politician and denounced by constitutionalists for what looked like an illegal bid for power. Ten years later his entire strategy for gaining power - the alliance with the communists — collansed when the latter took fright at the advance of their socialist rivals and sabotaged the expected victory of the left in

the 1978 parliamentary

elections. For Mitterrand, 1978 was a catastrophic result. He was now over 60; he had begun to look like a permanent loser: and his reputation as a political strategist lay in ruins. Within the Socialist Party, he was challenged by the rising star of Michel Rocard. Though he managed to win the socialist nomination for a third bite at the presidency in 1981. some commentators even doubted that he would

That Mitterrand did not succumb can be explained by his strength of character, by his ability to keep control of

make it to the second round.

and international politics in | litical reforms identified with the early 1980s. The incumbent president Giscard fell victim to the recession blues syndrome that had seen off Carter and Callaghan. Mitterrand skilfully combined policy radicalism with personal reassurance: his almost Baldwinesque campaign posters placed him against a rural background, complete with church steeple, and the comforting message la force tran-quille. What made the message work was the electoral decline of his old adversary/ ally, the Communist Party. Sixty years of rightwing pro-paganda disintegrated as the poor first-round performance of the communist candidate meant that a socialist president would no longer be at the mercy of the men with the metaphorical knife between their teeth. On round two Mitterrand swept to power at the head of a coalition of socialist enthusiasts, communist vot-ers, and Gaullist and nonparty malcontents. It was a sensational victory and one that Mitterrand immediately consolidated by holding fresh elections for the National Asembly in which the socialists

Mitterrand's presidency can be divided into three periods. In the first, he and his governments sought to realise never been based on economic social and police (critics like Lady Thatcher

were strengthened; local gov-ernment was freed from the stifling embrace of centralisation; and welfare benefits were increased The core innovation, however, was an extensive programme of nationalisation and demand stimulation that set France on a course dia-metrically opposed to that being followed in the United States and Britain. It was small wonder that Mitterrand became a beacon of hope for the faltering European left who, like Michael Foot's Labour Party, chose to overlook his resolute support for the introduction of Cruise

French socialism. The guillo-

tine was abolished; civil liber-

ties and trade union rights

derided his ignorance of eter-

nal economic verities) and by

the ever decreasing credibil

advanced by the commu and his own left wing.

ity of the alternative strategy

In the short term, employ

ment and his popularity plummeted. But his control

over his ministers and over

the socialist majority in the National Assembly remained

intact and gradually the

French economy recovered its competitiveness and confi-

ience. Even the more than

honorable defeat of the Social-

ist Party in the 1986 legisla-

tive elections was turned to

By staying in office and ap-pointing the Gaullist leader

Jacques Chirac prime minis

ter, he inaugurated the period

of cohabitation. This enabled

him to consolidate a highly

effective profile as the venera

constitutional proprieties and

the aggressive neo-liberalism of Chirac. Potential embar-

rassments like the 1985 Rain-

which French secret services

blew up a Greenpeace boat in

shrugged aside. The second period also saw

the European Community

move to the centre of his po-

litical agenda. As president,

bow Warrior scandal, in

ble, but vigilant, guardian of

national solidarity against

his advantage.

cepted the de Gaulle-inspired

dependent nuclear deterrent

intente with West Germany.

In 1984 he was photographed

holding rather than shaking

hands with Chancellor Kohl

More practically he played

a major role in the mid-1950s relaunching of the European

Community. He sent Jacques

to heal the running sore of

Britain's Community contri-

bution; and put his authority

It was a tribute to his popu-

behind the Single European

larity and authority that by 1988 the Florentine was more

commonly referred to as

Uncle or God. He strolled to

victory in the 1988 presiden-tial election, standing on his

record and personality and articulating a collection of lib-

eral-sounding platitudes that

bore little resemblance to the ambitious policies of 1981. Yet

the sheer ease of his victory

made it inevitable that the second term would turn sour.

This was not because of any

operation for cancer of the

prostate in 1992, he experi-

enced a last period of popular-

ity in his skilful handling of

His problems originated in

a series of domestic and inter-

national crises. The strong

currency and business-orien-

tated policies of his govern-

ments gave France one of the

best balance of payments re-cords in the industrialised

world. But they were quite

unable to prevent widening

social inequalities in France

and to slow the inexorable

march of unemployment to

the three million mark, an in-

crease that proved a fertile

recruiting ground for the ex-

treme right politics of Le

Within two years of taking office, Mitterrand's recovery programme crashed against the harsh realities of low inand a depreciating currency Thus in 1983 a second period began, as Mitterrand aban-doned the dream of "socialism in one country" and turned to the new 1980s ortho dontes of sound money, entre preneurialism and company profitability. His conversion was probably made easier by

the fact that his socialism had

Mitterrand had always ac-

refusal of allegiance gives a he excelled by getting himself the Socialist Party and by the unity to the whole of his sub- elected first secretary of the changing contours of national Down but not out . . . facing another period of cohabitation with the right in 1993

Pen's National Front. Neither reflected well on Mitterrand's complacent invocations of republican virtues. Abroad, the collapse of the Soviet Union left France once again exposed to the power of its neighbour across the Rhine. Mitterrand strove energetically to organise the new European disorder by a series of diplomatic moves, of which the most substantial was the 1991 Maastricht Treaty accelerating the pro-Governments throughout Europe were in trouble by the 1990s and the long serving Mitterrand was now facing the same sort of voter fatigue that had contributed to de Gaulle's decline in the late 1960s. Increasing numbers of his fellow citizens came to be-lieve that the arrogance of power had set in and Le Pen's left struck a nerve that ranscended their tainted origin. A series of corruption scandals involving the Socalist Party and presidential asso-ciates did untold damage in a country which always wants to believe the worst of its Mitterrand charges of personal corrup-tion; but his haughty manner and his extravagant use of public money for public, and private, ceremony caused great resentment. This might have mattered less had Mit-terrand not made the disasbrating his 10th anniversary in office by sacking his respected prime minister (and intimate enemy) Michel Rocard and replacing him with Edith Cresson, of whom it might politely be said that she was a long-time political able to win the respect of the political nation, and of the dragged Mitterrand down with her. Less than a year

In 1985 the scandal of the Rainbow Warrior was shrugged aside

later, in what was widely interpreted as a sign of declining presidential authority, Mitterrand was forced to replace her with another long time associate, the finance minister Pierre Bérégovoy. By now it was too late to restore the authority of he sober suited socialism that Mitterrand had come to symbolise. Despite an effective television intervention, Nitterrand was unable to achieve more than the narrowest of majorities in the referendant on Maastricht in September

policy, symbolised by the in-Six months later the Socialthe ruthless pursuit of French interests in Africa, and the ist Party he had done so much to create went down to over-whelming defeat in the pariamentary elections and plunged into a period of recrimination that did not spare its erstwhile hero. In a at Verdun — the site of the murderous first world war melancholy epilogue, his last Socialist prime minister and battle between France and devoted admirer Bérégoroy shot himself out of despair that he too was accused offinancial malpractice — and so some people said, that Miter Delors, his former finance rand had done nothing to help ninister, to Brussels: worked

Once again Mitterrand's r toughness and imperturbability came to the surface. He remained in office, reading, golfing and intelec-tualising when there vas nothing else to do — and m phasising his continuing authority when, as in the cas of Europe, there was. He colaborated closely with his con-servative prime miniser Edouard Balladur in he August 1993 crisis of the exchange rate mechanism md refused to accept that he European dream was dead His opponents continuer to treat him with wary respect

and his presidency did tot suffer the fate of American decline in Mitterrand's intel-lectual agility or zest for the game of politics. Despite an equivalents like Carter. Nachiavelli never became Ler. though the revelations of its Vichy past inevitably poed the question of what apart from his own star, he had ever believed in The moumental architectural projets he imposed on Paris - he Bastille Opera, the Louve Pyramid, the Defense Arciconstitute one form of legacy. The reshaping, and perhaps ultimately the sabotage, of he

extraordinary career.

François Maurice Marie Milerrand, politician, born October29, 1916; died January 8, 1996

him in his spiritual agony.

political agenda of the Freich left is another. But perhaps the most enduring legacy of all will be the memory of its

Peter Morris

ميكنا من الدعل

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

# Finance Guardian



# Tokyo banks to snub chunnel operator

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UROTUNNEL faces a resounding vote of no confidence from its banking consortium, are bankers as they prepare to sell their debt in the cash-strapped Channel March, according to Klesch this fiscal year. Last Octoresounding vote of no



To the tunnel . . . the Paris-bound Eurostar stops for the first time at the new Ashford International station yesterday

which play a pivotal role in Eurotunnel's 220-strong

The battle for Forte

up to 25 per cent of the company's £8 billion fection would come at a borrowings.

Tokyo-based institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on said: "In our view, Eurobased institutions, tunnel, which is trying to pend interest payments on the pend interest payments of the pend in restructure its borrowings.

Japanese banks, which include the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan and the Bank of Tokyo, are looking to pull out of Euro-tuonel because of the financial squeeze within their domestic market.

a few weeks. This being the end of the financial year, or close to that, for Japanese banks, the banks are more likely to dispose of loan loss provisions either at the

year or at the beginning of the next financial year." Despite its financial problems, Eurotunnel still continues to build up business, with a record 78,000 people using the Eurostar train service between Brusber, according to figures

snapping up northern neigh-bour, Yorkshire Tyne-Tees.

And Granada TV has al-

ready announced a joint ven-

ture with BSkyB (chairman

Gerry Robinson) to launch eight satellite channels of

Granada Gold Plus. Without Forte, the group's

leisure division looks a little

light: it consists mainly of

motorway services, which

stretches the concept of lei-sure rather widely.

Otherwise, following the

sale of bingo and bowling it is a motley collection of second

division theme parks, night-

Renting televisions is an-

the business remains so huge.
But it does, throwing off
plenty of cash in the process
and sales have been boosted

by new products such as mo-

bile phones and personal com-puters, although profits are

perhaps harder to come by in this highly competitive area. The addition of Forte will

keep Mr Robinson and his staff busy for a few years. But

haps they could mount a bid

for somebody else — Pearson

alternatives to Forte.

and Rank were apparently the

or, thwarted in trying to

approach and start breaking

which are the to complete the construction of their networks by about 1998, must be prepared for competition from the likes of British Telecom from early next decade. So far the industry has reached about 6 million homes in the UK and signed up some 1.2 million television

Alex Brummer

HE pensions mis-selling scandal, in which hun-dreds of thousands of sound occupational schemes into personal pensions, is the franchises. Directors searching for ways of maximising returns will be looking for most damaging of the Conser-

distributors in the independent financial sector. Even though the first and most urgent cases were meant to be settled by the end of last year

lines creeping up — the result bas been stalemate.

if the regulators fail to deliver prompt compensation to suits. A judge in Bristol Merviduals are entitled to sue eading life companies and do not spur action on settlement terms it is difficult to know what will. The risk must be that if the main protagonists the 4 million mark, an inno-vative solution was the cenkind that has caused such dis-

unprecedented crisis of confi-Cable cuts

Noisy necklace

HE mobile phone's trans-formation into a fashion item continues apace. what it describes as a "wear-able" phone, weighing 3.1 ounces and strung like a diamond pendant from a loop round the neck. It may be the smallest and lightest phone so far, but it's got a long way to go in the fashion stakes be-fore De Beers has to worry.

based on the price at which

market makers buy and sell

Mr Lawrence's plans for an

order driven market — under

which share orders available for trade are posted on an electronic notice board —

were first put to the Stock Ex-change board on November

24, according to a leaked in-

# Legal victory for victims of pensions mis-selling

Jill Papworth

UNDREDS of thousands of victims of per-sonal pension mis-selling yesterday won the choice to seek compensation through the courts following a landmark judgment quashing a move by insurers to block Wharton were allowed to prolegal action against them.

Five pensions providers—the Prudential, GAN Life, TSB, Hill Samuel and Irish Life - had applied to the Bristol Mercantile Court for proceedings brought against proceedings brought against them by trades unions on behalf of their members to be "stayed" pending the completion of the pensions review launched by City regulators,

mond Jack yesterday rejected the life companies applica-

The life companies had argued that if the actions launched against them by Bristol solicitors Ringrose ceed, it would open the floodgates to prosecutions from other investors and the courts would not be able to cope. The judge ruled that this was not the case.

which is an easy at least for unions to represent their see billion. But Judge Ray members through legal action: The judge also refused the

life companies leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal, although they do have 28 days in which to contest that. Philip Ryley, head of the pensions unit at Ringrose Wharton, said: "This judg-

ment is a victory for all investors who do not wish to be bound by the life industry's review timetable. In broader terms, it is a victory for choice. Up until now the industry's regulators have defined how and when individual claims are to be

reviewed. Some 74 cases are immedi- for dealing with top-priority | Wharton.

which is already expected to | ruled that it was reasonable | ately affected by yesterday's | cases, December 31, 1995, set | cost the industry at least | for unions to represent their | ruling and will come for a di | by the Securities and Investrections hearing before the Bristol Mercantile Court on February 22. A further 250 more Ringrose Wharton cli-ents, most of them GMB or RCN members, are now expected to issue writs against

life companies soon. Thousands more of the estimated 1 million-plus investors who were victims of personal pension mis-selling in the late eighties and early nineties are now likely to consider going to court.

Many are dissatisfied with the progress of the regulators' review, which has been subject to delays. As Judge Jack pointed out, the first deadline

ments Board, the senior City watchdog, and the Persona Investment Authority, "has already been missed by some margin". · Investors are also turning

to the courts because they could lose the legal right to do so if they leave it longer than six years since they opted out. transferred or did not join an occupational pension scheme and bought a personal pension plan instead.

The judgment meant that investors "don't have to be railroaded by a review process which some people regard as off the rails". said Robert Wharton of Ringrose following the ruling increased

A delighted Bill Day, GMB pensions officer, said: "The Government now has a duty can seek compensation."

An official of the RCN said: "This judgment will give some of our members, who were tempted out of the NHS occupational scheme six years ago, the chance to recover their losses as soon as

The Prudential said it was disappointed with the outcome and would be considering an appeal. Its main con-cern, said one official, was that money reserved for the SIB review would be diverted if the scale of litigation

### Notebook

## Policies grenade finally detonates

The companies, most of which are due to complete the

telephone customers. But even this dual revenue

At present there are about 14 cable companies owning,

pect the number of cable operators in the UK will be down

of the century through take-overs and mergers.

employees are shown the door, a privileged group will

be crossing the Atlantic to well-paid jobs. Those manag-ers who developed joint cable TV and telephone services in

the UK — a world first — will be needed to exploit similar

opportunities arising from de-

German bargain

ology, Germany is the big-

gest reservoir in Europe of

answers to the most pressing economic questions such as unemployment.

But, as Frankfurt news

paper reports yesterday dis-closed an increase of 231,000

in Germany's unemployed to

3.79 million in December and

the winter total heading over

trepiece of top-level talks be

tween the union IG Metall

Europe's biggest union

agree through an Alliance for

Jobs to take on 30,000 long-term jobless people in each of

the next three years, in

return accepting that they will be paid far less than the

Work beyond the basic 35-bour week would be recom-

pensed by increased leisure, not paid overtime. The em-

ployers' version of job-creat-

ing flexibility would, by con-

trast, cut basic pay to a fixed minimum, topped up by

special supplements and per-sonal bonuses. But they, too,

see that a deal with unions on more flexible working pat-terns as well as pay is an

essential component of the so-

lution to Germany's struc-

and employers.

corporatist

regulation in the US.

As increasing numbers of

huge start-up costs.

economies of scale. Most industry obse



that the matter could be settled quietly through the creaking self-regulatory system in which the buck is passed from the Securities and Investments Board to the Personal Investment Author ity to the big providers, like the Prudential and the TSB, and the thousands of smaller - and there are more dead-

Now the courts have delivered a timely reminder that, those receiving wrong advice, they could face a mass of lawcantile Court ruled that indinot have to await the Life Industry Review. If this does delay any longer they will face mass court action of the

ruption at Lloyd's of London. The main hold-up on reaching a settlement has been the to achieve its long-held aim of I dispute between the life companies and the independent flnancial advisers (IFAs) over responsibility. Many IFAs fear they could be put out of business, because they will no longer be able to obtain indemnity insurance, if they are forced to pay. They are seeking to share financial responsibility with the product suppliers. The result of the deadlock has been disastrous for all concerned: all but the largest IFAs are threatened with extinction; the life companies are losing business because of distrust arising from the pensions scandal, and the holders of mis-sold pensions are subjected to financial dis-tress. It is time that the Treasury, which has ultimate responsibility for financial regulation, cut through the morass — otherwise the UK savings industry will face an

URTHER job losses in the cable industry must be expected this year as

### operators seek to maximise returns during the few remaining years of their local monopolies.

Stock Exchange pressured

into consulting on reforms

Patrick Donovan

HE besieged Stock Ex-change, which last week Michael Lawrence, is now telling major brokers it is pre-pared to consult with the entire London market on its ternal document.

controversial reform The paper says that unless

over his failure to sound out views on his plans for the big-gest shake-up in the London marginalisation in the tradgest shake-up in the London market since "Big Bang", nearly 10 years ago.

He infuriated the City esdriven" share trading to the London market, which currently operates a "quote

Mr Lawrence was forced to adopt both a quote and order resign because of City anger driven trading system, the outlook for the London maring process". The document

adds that the Stock Exchange is already losing business be tablishment by announcing cause 17 per cent of London's that the Stock Market should introduce "order ready traded privately between individual brokers and a further 30 per cent through "order routed" systems operdriven" dealing service, ated by member firms.

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 2.02 Austria 15.10 Selgium 44.30 Canada 2.05 Cyprus 0.6975

France 7.40 htaly 2,406 Singapore 2.16 Germany 2,1700 Mafte 0.54 South Africa 5.48 Greege 384.00 Netherlands 2,4300 Spain 182.00 Norway 8,60 Switzerland 1.74 Norway 8,60 Switzerland 1.74 Turkers 88,2400 Switzerland 1.74 Norway 9.60 Switzerland 1.74 Portugal 226.00 Turkey 88,245 Saudi Arabia 5.78 USA 1.5150

ireland 0.9400

Granada to up ante today In 1985 the scandal of the Rainbox Warrior Was shrugged RANADA WIII aside for Forte by as much as 15 per 370p a share, valuing the company at £3.5 billion. CANADA Its long-awaited move is calculated to play on chief execu-tive Gerry Robinson's appeal

cure an outright knockout.

A five-hour meeting be-tween Granada's executives

and City backers broke up

shortly before 6pm last night,

heightening speculation that Granada had secured suffi-

cient firepower from its

underwriters. Later in the evening, Gra-

nada was lining up support

BZW, ABN Amro and Chemi-cal Bank — to secure backing

for the deal Behind them are

ranged up to 16 other sub-

underwriters — all commit-ted to Granada.

Under the takeover rules, Granada, which launched its

original 321p a share bid on November 22, had until today to improve the terms of its offer. Key to the raised bid is

Mr Robinson's reputation for

not overpaying for companies.

Two years ago, he snapped up rival ITV contractor, Lon-

don Weekend Television, for

£600 million, and is certain to

enhance that reputation if he

wins Forte at this price.

Despite Mr Robinson's sup-

port among City fund manag-ers, the general consensus in

the Square Mile is that Forte

has fought a doughty cam-paign to repel Granada, cul-

minating in last week's

£800 million giveaway to

from its main underwriters -

to City fund managers but is still seen as insufficient to se-

deal, or raise it by a contemptuously small amount. Granada shares closed

down 4p last night at 643p, valuing the group's original cash-and-paper offer at 326p, and indicating that the market expects Mr Robinson to come back with a higher offer. Forte shares closed down 1p, at 344p, with almost four million shares traded.

received a boost when Max Dolding, leisure analyst at broker James Capel, attacked Forte's defence strategy.

In a circular likely to be scoured by institutional nies, Mr Dolding said Forte had "done little to convince shareholders" of its ability to develop its long-term profit-ability, aside from the generally expected improvement in the British hotel market.

Meanwhile, Forte attempted to put out a spoiler on Granada's efforts, issuing a writ against Henry Staunton, Granada's finance director, for comments attributed to him in yesterday's Times Forte said a quote attrib-uted to Mr Staunton, in which After that, most City analysts expected Granada to come back with an improved offer, although there was also "designed to mislead", sug-



Playing it cool . . . Granada chief Gerry Robinson

speculation that the company sested that Forte's directors would walk away from the had broken the Finencial Services Act 1986.

Forte's lawyers, Linklaters & Paine, said that unless Mr Staunton published a "full retraction and apology" by 2pm yesterday afternoon, it would "start legal action". Under Forte's demands, Mr Staunton has a fortnight to

respond to the writ, which also seeks an agreement not to repeat the comments and "substantial" damages for Forte. Granada insiders insisted that Mr Staunton was "incredibly relaxed" about the writ, confirming he had gone into last-minute talks on the improved offer.

fuel Granada's recovery from a turn-of-the-decade trough, but defeat in this attempt

## Group can cope with bid's failure

Outlook

Roger Cowe

RANADA chairman Gerry Robinson is to increase his offer for Forte this morning. But it is unlikely to be a knockout blow, with the City predicting the battle will be a close run thing, even at a higher price. That said, Granada differs

from many aggressors in that the takeover is not crucial to its future. Losing, either by walking away or seeing Forte shareholders turn down a higher price, would be a dis-appointment to Mr Robinson and his colleagues. But it would not throw the group

into turmoil.

Takeovers have helped to

would still leave other op-tions in a pretty solid

Before Mr Robinson's recent deals, takeover success was plentiful, but turning the acquisitions into successful businesses was not. For example, geographic expansion of the TV rental business was a dead end. More recently, the creation of Europe's largest computer servicing operation turned out less attractive in

practice than on paper.
The latest spate has been more successful — so far. clubs and motels. None is terribly promising and more sales might be expected here. LWT has given the television other curious area. In an age
where it is not even obvious
why people should rent video
machines, it has long been
difficult to understand how

operations greater scale, and allowed some economies of scale to be realised.

The purchase of Sutcliffe catering and Spring Grove from P&O gave Granada a substantial base in services to business, while last year's ac-quisition of Pavilion Leisure beefed up the group's motor-

way service activity.
All this has nevertheless

they will not be twiddling their thumbs if they lose. Perquisition habit and concentrate on improving the existadd to his group, Mr Robin-son could take the opposite it up. That would be much more fashionable. 1991 92 93 94 95

### The changing face of Granada 1990 Operating profit 1995 Leisure 17%

Internet access

to explode into

£1bn business

Nicholas Bennister

CCESS to the Internet will become a near

ci billion business in

Britain by the end of the cen-

tury, according to a report

This compares with spend-

dividuals of £35 million for ac-

cess and related services in

The stockbrokers warn that

the explosive growth of the

Internet in the next few years will pose a serious threat to traditional telephone companies such as British Telecom.

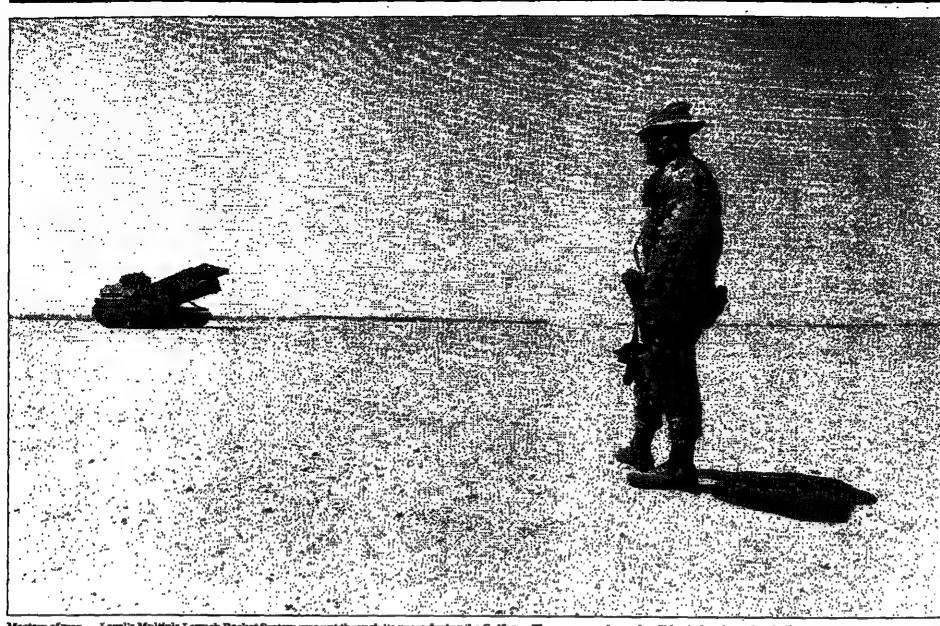
It points to the arrival last

year of a number of software packages which enable users to make phone calls over the

Internet to anywhere in the world, adding: "The Internet

will soon be capable of inter-

### £6bn acquisition intensifies shake-up of US defence industry as Pentagon orders fall



# Lockheed deal stirs up storm

Mark Tran in New York

OCKHEED Martin. the US defence conglomerate, sent a trivals that the struggle has begun in earnest for the survival of the fittest in the post-Cold war US defence industry. Its agreement to buy most of Loral, a defence electronics and aerospace company, for \$9.1 billion (25 billion), will create a behemoth with a combined revenue of more

Itself the product of one of the biggest mergers in the deheed combined with Martin Marietta in 1994, Lockheed terday's deal, it will become an even more formidable competitor to European and

The Lockheed Martin-Loral agreement comes just a week

defence electronic assets of Motors to make their own Westinghouse Electric for deals. There has been speculaabout \$3 billion. The two tion that Boeing and McDondeals are symptomatic of the shake-up of the US defence inshake-up of the US denotes the dustry, encouraged by Defence Secretary William with Lored solidifies Lock-the face of declining heed Martin's leadership popular would premier orders from the Pentagon. Analysts said the latest agreements will put further

nell will merge their helicop-

sition as a world premier high technology company," Lockheed chairman Daniel pressure on Boeing, McDon-Tellep said. "It enhances our nell Douglas and the Hughes technology base, improves Tellep said. "It enhances our

### Fact file: Lockheed Martin

CREATED by the 1994 merger of Lockheed and Martin Marietta, Lockheed Martin is America's largest defence firm, which aptly describes itself as a highly diversified advanced technology company. It makes military aircraft ranging from cargo planes to the F16, the main fighter of Martin is the largest rocket the US Air Force, and aerospace equipment such as the maker in the US, as well as a builder of satellites. With yeshas annual sales of \$23 billion. Its key businesses are defence electronics, tactical systems and information and

technology services.

Analysts believe acquisition of Loral will solidify Lockheed's status as America's No. 1 defence company. Annual combined sales will reach approximately after Northrop Grumman an- \$30 billion. Lockheed will pay \$7 billion in cash.

nounced the purchase of the | Electronic unit of General | our competitiveness, expands | entire transaction comes to | called the Office of the Chairour global reach and provides | more than \$9 billion, the comnew opportunities for growth."

Lockheed and Loral will marge their defence electronics operations and weapons systems businesses. Loral nakes Sidewinder air-to-air missiles and the Multiple Launch Rocket System and the Army Tactical System. It also makes radar warning equipment for F15 and F16 warplanes and flight training ulators for F15Es.

Lockheed has an important line in military aircraft, including the F16, the new F22 Stealth fighter and the C130 J military cargo plane. In aero-space, Lockheed makes the fuel tanks for the space shuttle and the Atlas rocket

The semenace businesses of the two companies will be separated into a new commanies said. Lockheed has five areas of business: aeronautics, elec-

tronics, energy and environ-ment, information and technology and space and strategic missiles. Following the deal, the Loral business units will constitute a sixth group, tactical systems.

Running the combined company will be a triumvirgte abroad.

With an eye firmly on the global market, Mr Augustine noted that the aerospace and iefence electronics industry is continuing to consolidate into a number of large com-petitors both in the US and

lep, Lockheed Martin president Norman Augustine and

Loral chairman Bernard

### Fact file: Loral

LORAL concentrates on defence electronics, communications and space weapons systems. Based in New York, it employs 38,000 and has annual rates of \$6.7 billion. Products include the Sidewinder missile, radar warning systems for F15 and F16 fighter aircraft. defence electronics for ships, planes and tanks, and the US Army's Multiple Launch Rocket System. Loral has a 31 per cent interest in Globalstar, which is developing a \$2 billion worldwide satellite-based communications

pany called Loral Space and Communications system capable of serving 10 million subscribers.

Loral grew through acquisitions orchestrated by 70beed buying a 20 per cent stake in the company for stake in the company for \$344 million. The total value to Loral shareholders for the vice chairman of Lockheed Martin.

News in brief

### Nynex CableComms decimates staff

NYNEX CableComms. Britain's second largest cable company is to shed more than 10 per cent of its workforce as part of an economy drive. The company, controlled by America's Nynex phone group, said yesterday that about 310 employees would go

by compulsory redundancy if necessary.

The cuts, coupled with the creation of a national sales force and centralised installation, maintenance, repair and customer service operations, are expected to result in restructuring costs

of under £1 million.
A spokesman said jobs would go across the board. At senior management level, the post of chief financial officer, yacant since John Killian's promotion to president and chief executive, would not be filled. — Nicholas Bannister

### Seeboard bid cleared

THE Government yesterday cleared the way for the second takeover of a regional electricity company by an American utility when Trade and Industry Secretary Ian Lang waved through Central and South West Corporation's agreed £1.6 billion bid for

Mr Lang said the decision was in line with advice from the Office of Fair Trading and the electricity industry watchdog. Stephen Littlechild. Dallas-based CSW has given assurances that it will ringfence Seeboard financially and provide adequate

### Vauxhall ballot

VAUXHALL car workers are to be balloted on a three-year deal which would include a pay rise of up to 4.5 per cent this year. inflation-linked increases in the following two years and a cut in the basic working week by one hour to 38. The Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union is recommending acceptance the offer, but Transport and General Workers' Union delegates yesterday rejected their negotiators' advice to call for a yes vote.

Last month, shop stewards at Ellesmere Port and Luton, Vauxhall's main plants, voted to reject the package. — Seumos Milne

### Jaquar swindler jailed

A BUSINESSMAN who paid hundreds of thousands of pounds in A BUSINESSMAIN Who paid numbers of mousains of points in bribes to a corrupt Jaguar employee in return for lucrative artwork contracts was jailed for a year yesterday. Stephen Wil-liams, aged 42, paid the bribes to Roger Fielding, a senior Jaguar employee, with cash he had swindled from Jaguar by submitting over-inflated invoices for translation work.

Snaresbrook Crown Court, east London, heard that Australian-born Williams, of Twickenham Road, Teddington, Middlesex, had oorn williams, of Twickentiam Road, Tedamgion, Midnieser, had even handed over his own Jaguar car to Fielding in payment. Williams pleaded guilty in December 1994 to conspiring to commit corruption and conspiring to defraud Jaguar. — Financial staff

### Enron nears India deal

THE row over India's biggest foreign investment project yester-The row over inuals organization after the state of Maharashtra accepted Euron's proposal for a \$2.5 billion (£1.6 billion), 2.450-megawatt power plant. Texas-based Euron sald it was a significant step in reviving the project. — Mark Tran in New York

### Despite predictions, feelgood factor less than universal

## Consumers splashing out again

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

RESH evidence that con-sumer spending is on an upward trend emerged today when the British Retail Consortium reported that Christmas takings in the high street were up by more than 4 per cent on December, 1994. However, it warned that the rise was spread unevenly across the retailing sector and was only achieved as a result of widespread discountfound that the value of sales

in December, 1995 was 4.3 per cent higher than a year ear-lier — the strongest annual growth rate for eight months. Retailers in the food and

the post-Christmas sales were generally seen as successful after a mixed start due to the ginson, chairman of the BRC Economic Affairs Committee, said: "Retailers will be pleased that sales activity im-proved over the all-important Christmas period, albeit sup-ported by relatively high levels of discounting. "We now need to see this

improvement maintained ing by shops and stores.

The BRC sales monitor did not happen last year and for any recovery to be seen more widely across the retail sectors". In its latest forecasts for the

economy, the Ernst and 1995 proved to be a disap-Young Item Club said it be pointing year for retailers es-

drink and personal computers sector reported particularly buoyant trading, while Britain's economic performing improved trading condimance this year, but added that any real spurt would be delayed until the second half of the year. Item, which uses the Treasury's model for its forecasting, said that economic growth would be 2.5 per cent this year, compared to the 3 per cent predicted by the Chancellor in last November's Budget.

However, it said 1996 was likely to have two distinct halves, with the rekindling of consumer activity in the second half of the year providing the impetus for increasingly robust growth.

Paul Droop, economist at the Item club, said: "Although

tions as the year progresses." By the second half of the year, Item believes that consumer spending will be rising at an annual rate of 3.5 per cent - the strongest since

1987 — with base rates at 5.75 per cent and inflation low.

The optimism about the domestic economy was mirrored vesterday on the inter-Tietmeyer, Bundesbank pres-ident and chair of the group of 10 central banks, said in Basle that the slowdown in Europe in the second half of

1995 was only temporary.
"The expectation is the recovery will start again and will continue," Mr Tietmeyer

### Redland profit warning casts Two-year brake on growth gloom on UK building sector

Tony May

THE Redland building materials and construction group issued a profit warning yesterday which dealt a fresh blow to the beleaguered UK building industry. Irum Malik, economist at

the National Council of Building Materials Producers, pre-dicted: "Overall construction output will continue to fall in 1996, and even an increase in 1997 is based on several positive assumptions about gov-

ernment policy." Redland reported difficult trading conditions throughout Europe and said its profit for 1995 would register a 'small fall" from the previous year's £373 million. It added that market conditions in the United Kingdom had continued to weaken in the second half. Sales of aggregates and related products had dropped by between 7 per cent and 13 per cent. Brick sale volumes fell by 14 per cent. down by around 19 per cent.

lyst at Paribas Capital Mar kets, said the warning high-lighted the slowdown in all European markets, adding: " see no improvement in the underlying trading environ-ment for 1996." He cut his 1995 forecast for Redland prof-

its from £390 million to

£350 million and his 1996 fore

Andrew Melrose, an ana

cast from £400 million to £370 million. Redland cited a fall in the market for roof tiles in Ger many, previously a main engine of profit growth, and a deterioration in the German housing market.

The company said it would take a £5 million charge to cover redundancy payments as its German operation is scaled down. Germany is Redland's largest market, and Mr Melrose said: "The rate of decline in the German housing market is going to increase." He noted that western German housing permits in the

GROWTH in car producbecause the pace of economic growth is set to slow, the

pared by car, truck and component firms for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, this year's economic growth will fall below the Treasury forecast of 3 per cent, leaving growth slower this year and next -- when a general election may take place - than it has been in

Production from British car factories is scheduled to rise just 1.3 per cent to 1.55 million vehicles this year, increasing by a further 1.9 per cent to l.58 million in 1997. Last year, UK output rose by 4.3 per cent to 1.53 million cars.

Truck and van production first nine months of 1995 were is set to rise 3.7 per cent this ping £1 billion for the first

### forecast by car industry Growth in car exports will also slow. Export production

Chris Barrie

increased by 20 per cent to 740,000 cars last year, but this year it will rise by only .4 per cent to 750,000 cars as the growth in car sales on the motor industry predicted yes-Continent falters. With the SMMT official terday.

According to forecasts preforecast for UK car sales pencilled in at 1.97 million cars, an increase of 25,000 on last year, SMMT chief economist Margaret Pyne sald consumer confidence remained fragile "with overall income growth still expected to be relatively constrained, continuing uncertainty over job prospects and a subdued housing marprevious years.

The car industry believed "the absence of a sustained improvement in the feel-good factor" would impede significant growth in spending on le items. Global sales of Jaguar cars

rose 30 per cent last year to 39,725 cars, with exports top-

### people connected to the net by early this year, rising to more than 200 million by 2002. A Durlacher spokesman said the firm expected the number of UK corporate subscribers, linked to the Internet through leased lines, to

rise to about 40,600 by 2000, while dial-up subscribers yesterday by City brokers Durlacher. would top 5.5 million. The report accepts that retail sales via the internet ing by UK companies and inare still very low, but says they will grow rapidly after the arrival of commonly-accepted security standards

later this year. A survey of 250 users showed that 23 per cent had already bought something via the Internet, while more than 50 per cent would if security

were improved. Durlacher expects that as the Internet grows the big bat-talions will move in — with Microsoft and BT eventually sharing 25 per cent of the

national calls at local prices." The downward pressure on prices will make it harder for It says, however, that the Internet will begin to creak a bit as increased use of audio traditional phone companies to charge for calls according to their duration. "There will then be a move towards and video transmissions eats into the network's capacity. Sex remains the most popu-

charging for access and con-tent," Durlacher says. lar content obtainable on the Internet. But Durlacher estimates that sales of businesses The report, prepared by Durlacher Multimedia in consuch as Cybercafes and World Wide Web design and producternet consultancy, estimates tion will exceed that there will be 33.4 million the UK this year. tion will exceed £65 million in

# Auditors seek pause on new board controls

Roger Cowe

CALL for a two-year Amoratorium on new corporate governance measures was made vesterday by auditors, who are still struggling to work out how to comply with the final aspects of the Cadbury Report of De-

cember 1994. lan Plaistowe, chairman of the Auditing Practices Board (APB), denied that the call was an attempt to reverse recent pressure on companies to improve boardroom prac-tics. He said he was "a great enthusiast" for the Cadbury proposals and wanted to enhance them. But he said that companies

had had to accommodate substantial changes over the past few years and wanted existing requirements to settle down before making further changes. "Constant tweaking of requirements can cause antagonism," Mr Plaistowe said. His comments came as the APB published recommendations to the new Hampel committee, which meets for the first time this month to carry on the work begun by Cad-bury. The APB has told Sir Ronnie Hampel to reconsider the Cadbury Code's requireauditors to report on the effectiveness of internal

Mr Plaistowe said it was very difficult to define "effectiveness" but an alternative form of words would make it easier for directors to report on companies' control systems, and for auditors to report on their statements in

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annual reports.

Meanwhile, the actuarial profession yesterday published five methods for calculating directors' pension benefits, as called for by last year's Greenbury committee, but refused to recommend any of them for adoption by the Stock Exchange until con-sidering responses, which have to be submitted by Feb-

A report from the actuaries last summer met hostility from many directors, some of whom argued that the Green-bury disclosure requirements

Presenting their latest con-sultation paper yesterday. they said the method originally proposed would result in highly volatile pension liabilities in reports. But it remains one of their five options, with an average taken over three years suggested as a means of reducing the

volatility.
Paul Thornton, chairman of the Cadbury Code's requirethe actuaries' working group ment for directors and that prepared the latest document, said yesterday: "We regard it as a perfectly reasonable method."

## Lloyd's List woos ex-Fisons chief

Pauline Springerit

CTUART Wallis, the Sormer chief executive of Fisons, has become non-executive chairman of the publisher Lloyd's of London Press. LLP was sold last month by its parent. the troubled Lloyd's of London insurance market, in an £82.5 million management buy-out. Mr Wallis, 50, left Fisons

following the company's takeover by the US drugs group Rhône-Poulenc Rorer last autumn. He is widely respected in the City for his track record of turning around ailing compa-nies, often by a focused pro-gramme of selling off noncore activities.



Stuart Wallis . . . respected as a doctor to ailing firms

LLP, whose flagship publication, Lloyd's List, is the world's oldest international daily newspaper. made £4 million pre-tax profit in 1994 after several years of undisclosed losses. The buy-out has already resulted in job losses, and there are fears among the 400 staff that reorganisation is on the cards.

However, Mr Wallis said yesterday that he did not expect to sell off parts of the business. "LLP has a unique database and there are significant growth opportunities. This is a business that is not going to stand still," he said, adding that the intention was to float LLP in about three years' time.

Mr Wallis joined Fisons in mid-1994, when its fortunes appeared to be spiralling uncontrollably downwards. In 13 months he swiftly stopped the rot with a series of quick-fire selloffs. He was openly disappointed when the group eventually succumbed to RPR's bid.

Prior to Fisons, Mr. Wallis was at paper company Bowater, now called Rexam; the Hestair engineering group; and the pub-

2

lisher Octopus. Mr Wallis's annual salary at Fisons was £280,000, and he is understood to be in line for a £2 million severance package from RPR. He said LLP would be pay-ing "a fair and appropriate salary".

# Dark-horse **Colts stay** the course

Mark Tran in New York

HE Indianapolis Colts defied the din and the odds when they stunned the Kansas City Chiefs 10-7 at Arrowhead Stadium to earn a place in the American Conference

championship game.
The Chiefs, playing in front
of one of the noisiest crowds in football, boasted the NFL's best record this season with 13 wins and had not lost a home game all year. They were the anointed ones.

The Colts came to Arrow-head Stadium without their star running back Marshall Faulk, out with a knee injury. But led by their veteran quarterback Jim Harbaugh they provided another play-off up-set to set alongside last week's 35-20 win over the San Diego Chargers, the American Conference champions. Harhaugh has gone from Chicago Bears reject, to back-up, to star of a play-off team. Tve never had so much fun," said the self-deprecating

quarterback. "Good stuff like this never happens to me."

It is also a new experience for most of his team-mates. "We have 48 guys that are tough suckers," said the linebacker Trev Alberts. "Maybe we're too young and dumb to realise the significance of

three of his field-goal at-tempts, steered a 43-yard effort wide with 37 seconds left. The hapless kicker sat in front of his locker crying more than 45 minutes after the game.

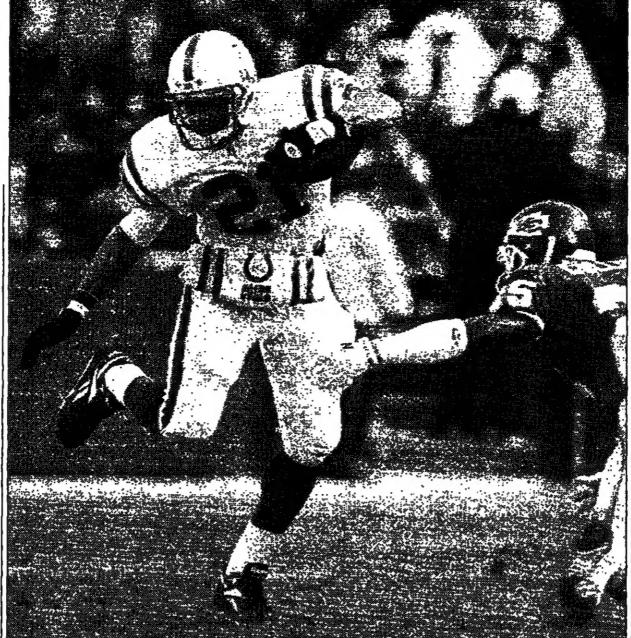
But defeat was a collective failure. Steve Bono, who had enjoyed a good season, went as cold as the weather. He threw three interceptions and was yanked late in the game.
The only offensive spark for
the Chiefs came from their

running back Marcus Allen, who was so disappointed by the defeat that he is contemplating retirement. The Chiefs gave the ball away four times, a sharp departure from the norm as they lead the NFL in the turnover battle.

The Colts will be underdogs again when they travel to Three Rivers Stadium to take on the Pittsburgh Steelers next Sunday, their first shot at the conference title since

ing for a Steelers win in order to have a competitive Super Bowl. The Colts would likely face a walloping by the Green Bay Packers or the Dallas Cowboys in Phoenix. The Packers played a text-

book game in dethroning the Super Bowl champions, the San Francisco 49ers. 27-17. But there was no upset in Texas, where the team everybody loves to hate squeezed The Colts held off the Chiefs the life out of the Philadel-as Lin Elliott, who missed all phia Eagles, 30-11.



### Golf

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# Runner-up Faldo moves slowly up the rankings

David Davies

ICK FALDO, second on ICK FALDO, second on Sunday in the first event of the 1996 US Tour, the Mercedes Championship in California, moved up one place to seventh in the Sony Rankings as a result. Jointly with Scott Hoch, he finished three strokes behind Mark O'Meara, whose final great and hit my irons so good. On Saturday and Sungard and seventh search won sacott.

O'Meara had only one bogey all day and said: "I played a really smart round of golf."

He added: "I drove the ball great and hit my irons so good. On Saturday and Sungard about as good on Saturday and Sungard about as good seventh in the same of the sa round 68 gave him a 17-under-

par. total of 271.
Faldo, who partnered the winner in the last round, and a 67 and said later: "I thought pected and, to his mind, undea score like that on the last served warning for slow play. Is an area of responsibility five fairways all told.

After the Johnnie Walker thing to think about, but it of the final round and the have opted out. Faldo is noteevent in Jamaica in Decem-

in 10 months and his 11th overall in 15 years on the US tour, took home \$180,000 (about £112,000) while Faldo and Hoch each won \$88,000.

day I played about as good as
I can play. The guys threw a
lot at me and I held them off."
One of the things thrown at
O'Meara was a totally unex-

immediately incensed. He said to the official: "Fine put me on the clock. It's not me, and it's just he [Faldo] and

I playing. I'm not playing slow and it's not me that takes so long to pull the trigger.

"Faldo has a hard time making a decision," added O'Meara. "He almost wears out the grass walking back and forth to survey his shots. But. I can't really tell Nick Faldo, 'Nick, Nick, Nick.

regarded as one of the best players in the world he gets away with it almost all the

Despite the controversy

Faido was pleased, not so much with his placing as with the way he had played. "I had a great week," he said. "I scored lower every day." True, the weather was near perfect, but his rounds of 70, 69, 68 and 67 over the difficult La Costa course, between San Diego and Los Angeles, repre-

R Supple T Granthern .Hr C Homser (3) .A P McCoy .Clark Walsh (5)

didn't. He played really well." | American, who is one of the | riously slow but because he | ber Faldo, whose 1995 season | away. But not only did he flor O'Meara, with his third win | tour's quicker players, was | has won five majors and is | was a severe disappointment. | in that event, he went on to talked of plenty of hard work in store on certain aspects of his swing, in particular his hip action. On Sunday night he said: "I am reaping the benefits from all my recent

practice." It is an encouraging start for the Englishman, but he will have learned not to read too much into it. Each season is directed at the major championships, and last year he won the Doral Ryder Open in Florida in the first week in March. At the time it looked

in that event, he went on to have his worst season in the four majors.

The Open champion John Daly, who has a history of

doing nothing by halves, fin-ished last for the second event in succession. He did the same in Jamaica, where he did not break 80, and on Sunday his final 75 gave him an 11-over-par total of 299. Daly has given up the choc

as if he was running into the found that drastically altering best possible form at the best the shape of one's body can best possible time, with the US drastically after the shape of the shape of one's brown at the best the shape of one's brown can be be best possible time, with the US drastically after the shape of the shape o

### No room for **Celtic Swing** in World Cup

Graham Rock

IGAR, the top American horse, heads the prospective runners for the inaugural running of the Dubai World Cup on March 27 but Celtic Swing, who won the French Derby, has not

Preedom Cry, Pennekamp and Pentire are the three European selections, but Celtic Swing is likely to be inm among the original field Assuming Celtic Swing

passes a veterinary examina-tion over the next few days, richest race, with prize money of \$4 million. Pentire is cantering at New-

market and Geoff Wragg said yesterday that a decision be made no later than tomorrow. The list of Northern Hemi-

sphere contenders has been hosen on the basis of the official classification published Swing just failed to make it. Even if all three of the European representatives international horse race that

run, defections from other countries might allow Savill's horse to take his chance.

Cigar was an automatic That is true at this stage, Cigar was an automatic first choice for the Americas;

'Carriere and Soul Of The Matter are the two remaining elections from across the Atlantic. Godolphin has four in the field, Halling, Cezanne, Moon-

shell and Annus Mirabilis. The quartet are in training at Al Quoz, Dubai, and are expected to be seen in action during the next month or so.

ford, the Godolphin manage "At this stage we intend to give them all a run before the race, and we will be much nearer to knowing our final plans a month from now." Pennekamp, not seen in public since fracturing a leg in the Derby, has been back in light work at André Fa-

bre's Chantilly stable since late November.

"The frost has held him up a bit, but he will fly to Dubai on January 20 and, all being vited to join the field if, as well, will have a preparatory expected, there are defections race about three weeks before

the Dubai World Cup," said Anthony Stroud yesterday.

Jeune, winner of the Mel-bourne Cup in 1994, and Ma-hogany, seven times a group owner Peter Savill is expected one winner, are the chosen pair to represent Oceania, while Lively Mount and Taiki will be trained for the world's Blizzard are among the best horses in Japan.

Not surprisingly Michael Osborne, chairman of the Osborne, chairman of the Dubai World Cup Committee, was pleased with the response. "The sheer quality of the field for the inaugural race exceeds even the ambitious expectations we had when the Dubai World Cup was first conceived," he said. Geoffrey Gibbs, the senior last week, which is why Celtic | British Horseracing Board handicapper, was another en-thusiast. 'I can think of no

> but the success of the first running of the Dubai World Cup essentially rests in the hands of Alan Paulson, who owns the best horse in the world - Cigar.

No final decision has been made, but the Breeders' Cup Classic winner is expected to reappear in Florida next month, travel to California for the Santa Anita Handicap "They are spot on at the early in March, and then noment," said Simon Cristo Dubai to defend his title. early in March, and then fly

### Front Street leads the way

ante-post market at 7-2 with the sponsors for the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot on Saturday, writes Graham

The £40,000 added race over two miles, has attracted 13 probables and all the major firms are betting on this com-

RONT STREET, a smooth opinion among leading book-course-and-distance win-ner last month, heads the 81 with Ladbrokes, 11-2 with Coral's, and Egypt Mili Prince, 11-2 with Chandler and 10-1 with Coral's.

Jim Old has not yet decided whether his easy Sandown winner Collier Bay will travel to Leopardstown for the Ladbroke Hurdle on Saturday. The sponsors eased Collier

### Leicester runners and riders

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Colony Handles, surf. Clears, good. & Dunnies bilakers. 12.45 HOMED HOYICE HURDLE (Dir D 2m C3,171

45 HOMAD HOYSE HURDLE (Div 7) Am C3,171
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Flandert. 12-1 Master Pangione.

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SECOTTIBLE RABER (265) P Middeo 6-11-5

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3 FARRES FAREWELL (295) S Sherwood 6-11-0

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O-SPERMOFERD BYMAIN (164) R SKORPE 5-11-0

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35-1161 BRANDERBLE BUCK (20) P Nicholis 7-12-9

1 36-1261 BRANDERBLE BUCK (20) P Nicholis 7-12-9

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2 40245-P BIRSTYPE FOOLEY (205) D Nicholis 6-11-4

2 205-2 LYME GOLD (205) O Sharmood 7-11-4

5 225-2 GARTYLOGIGH (205) D Garcialor 7-11-4

6 2320-4 MAN FOR ALL SEASON (3) R Hodges 10-11-4

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3 44-72 GLEBTON PRINCESS (46) Min Merita Joses 8-11-7

452-44 MATWE MORY (20) M HAMMOON 7-10-8

10 0445-S SEG ARTHER (25) D Nicholis 7-10-8

11 202-F GARTHAN (21) (20) N Hodges 10-7-10-8

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20 9-33 LONG REACH (67) N Texton-Deutes 8-10-6

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2P-AST MAGRILLAN BAY (24) Mrs J Pilman 3-11-9

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SSSSP- BALAAT (28C) M Caspons 6-11-3

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170-07 SEVERNI (ALL (19) (19) E. Lewellyn 7-11-9

170-07 SEVERNI (ALL (19) (19) F. Lewellyn 7-11-9

20:03-03 REPPLES (20) M. Causenin 9-10-5

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1945 Rain-H-Com \$ 10 1 Hr | Maintained 5-1 (J Harris) \$ res Bettings 3-4 Aires Spit II, 7-2 Carrerra Boy, 4-1 Goldingo, 6-1 Miss Sceller, 12-1 Pa Ruspins

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Results

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Totar £1.70; £1.10, £1.70, £3.30. Duel F £3.30. CSF: £3.38. 2.45 £13m 47;s 1, YOUGO, J Weaver (8-11 tev); 2, Zeeff (50-1); 3, Nick The Bisoult (9-1); 10 ran 30; £ 1M Johnston) Tota: £1.70; £1.20; £1.40, £1.80; Duel F: ₹44.50. 7rio £95.70; CSF: £2.30. 2.46 £1m 27; 1, OURT TOUR, N Carlisle (14-1); 2, Peochec's Hall (3-1 tav); 3, Whidden (5WT) (7-2); 17 ran, 3 4 [J Wharion) Tota: £3.40; £5.50, £1.50, £2.10. Duel F £52.00. Trice £252.40. CSF £55.96. Tricast £172.40
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Tota: £1.70; £1.70, £1.70, £3.30. Dual F £3.30.

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FORM GUIDGE - ULTTER REARIEST, Held op. ridden over 31 out. 160 71 out. pan on woll when big PLEM GAZ

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304 10005-3 BAKERS DAUGHTER (22) (D) J Armois 4-0-1
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SMALTHES DOMAINE Never near to chellenge, 118 8th to Science Ridge (Lingfleid 7f, Skd).
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411 4000-1 MURCA STORY (21) M Pran 4-8-6
412 10555- DUGAMA (28) P ENDS 1-8-1
413 30505- ALPHE STORM (25) M URAC 4-9-5
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SALESP THIRLLE Ran on when 28 2rd to Cus Province (Wolverbarrapean 18m, Std).

SALESP THIRLE Ran on when 28 2rd to Cus Province (Wolverbarrapean 18m, Std).

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Tourised India, Skil). Improved the provided the provided that the

3-30 REPAILER HARDICAP OF CA,846

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603 10050- SPERINDER (\$7) (CD) P Herrit 7-0-13

604 40-40- PROCESULE FPEC (\$2) 5 Dos 4-0-11

605 31605- ULTITAL REXT (CD) (\$0) (\$0) O P Instead 4-9-3

507 0223-0 FOUR OF SPANDES (\$) (CD) P Event 5-9-6

509 09427- ROBO BRANC (\$2) (CD) L Montago Hell 4-9-5

509 00500- O FACTOR (\$4) (00 D Trayth Jones 4-9-2

519 4007- PAAREDY (\$7) (77) and (CD) P Instead 7-9-2

519 0007- PAAREDY (\$7) (77) and (CD) P Instead 7-9-2

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TOP FORM TIPE: Househ's Union B, Robe Magic 7, Popolog 6 1993: Shart Expression 5 10 D R Cockesso 4-1 (S Monkey) 5 res Betting: 9-2 Pobo Magic, 5-1 Pageboy, 6-1 Chantl, 13-2 Squire Corrie, Four Of Spades, 7-1 Spi Hazveh's Uster.

Policie Cultific - Chicagotti in C-bit hand-cisp lum time when promisent until led over 11 out, beaded and no extra static lists. 39 4th of 8 to 20gg/s Dancer, with HANNATS USYER (no. 28), to 20gd, one place mode lines 1, 69 5th and with LLTRA BEET (no. 29), belond final 3, 61 test (Lingfield S, Saf).

SPENDER: In competitive hand-cap less time when headway 21 out, tops on well made fines 1, 8th of 18, bit 15 to 10 test Trades (Chescal landers until weakened quickly 21 out. 7th of 9, bits 16 to Ashgore Ger to industry inters collegated as (Ger-Ing.) weathered queckly 32 cas. 7th of 9, into 161 to Asingtons (Notwerhampton 71, 34)
ROSSO MAGGE: Chassed leaders, strongly ridden to lead well reside final 1, won by 108 from Gouthern Common, 10 mm t. Ingliefe 6, 36th.

PAGESOYS Promiseru, led inside final 1, ridden out to win by 108 from Four Knox, 10 ran | Linghiefe 61, 56th.

ROSSIGNE COMMEN Always in the broad mark but time when every chance inside linal 1, one pace, 4th of 10, bin 31 to Friendly Branco (Linghiefe 51, 56th).

4.00 MELSON HANDICAP SYD IN 25 CA.781 ### 1000- BALDER STY 0 1m 2f E3,761

007- BELLIPE SOY (285) B Palmp 9-7

DESCS BLUE FLYER (25) R Ingram 9-7

500- BOWYSENSSTY (24) R Cupram 9-7

500- BOWYSENSSTY (24) R Cupram 9-7

1800-1 CHRAC QUETTE (4) (396 sat) P Relation 9-19

1800-1 CHRAC QUETTE (4) (396 sat) P Relation 9-19

1800-1 CHRAC QUETTE (4) (396 sat) P Advision 6-19

1803-1 STERLING FELLOW (45) R Fainton 8-11

1805- STUR WEEDINGS (1779) M Bell 9-9

400(21- DOBLOOK (45) M Johnston 6-5

3000- TANTAN EXPRESS (25) S Pource 7-12

71 ministers TOP FORBITTPR: Belly's Boy 8, Starting Fellow 7, Klasting Gate 6 1898; Allgel's Led 2 5 7 J Womer 9-2 (P Hostons) 91 ram Retting 7-2 Klasting Gate, 4-1 Thorntoen Extens, 9-2 Starting Peliote, 5-1 Democr. 11-2 Belle's Boy, 6-1 China Castle, 8-1 Blue Fiyer. PORMS CALIFIE - SELLE'S BOY: Close up, led entering first I, ran on well to bi Ballos by 1

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THORRITOUR ESTATE in south, rax on to id close home, bi STERLING FELLOW (Int) by a ind. letter, driven bleng, hard nodge and cought in finel strides, 14 ran (Lingfield Imiz, Sid).
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Controvick 61, Cor-Pill and redden out to bi Tina Katerina by a nit, 4 ran (Wolverhampton Ios, Sudj. DOBBOOR: Mode all and redden out to bi Tina Katerina by a nit, 4 ran (Wolverhampton Ios, Sudj. CHRISA CASTILL: Headway over 21 and, led over 11 and, soon clear, bt Theatre Magic by 8 Stathwalf 7, Std.
SUPAROY: In much, ridden halfery, 2002 outpaced, 8th of 10, bts 151 behind Billaddie (Lingseld 1st, Std)
TARTAM EXPRESS: Chased leaders until weakened halfery, fest of 9, 24 behind Red Rusty (Lingseld 1st,

### Rambo retired

PAMBO'S HALL, dual win-mer of the Cambridge-shire, was retired at Southwell yesterday after the 11year-old had finished second to Our Tom in the Kildare Handicap. The gelding was bought as a yearling by Jer-emy Glover, his trainer, and won more than £190,000.



# **United** set to step in for Boban

lan Ross and Don Beet

the Croatian interna-tional, may be about to end Manchester United's search for a natural successor to the Ukrainian

winger Andrei Kanchelskis. United's manager Alex Fer-guson must decide whether to make a formal approach to AC Milan for Boban, one of the most technically accomwho has been used wide on

Ferguson was in Italy on Sunday to watch Milan play Sampdoria and although Bo-ban did not play the manager met officials of the Italian club. United, who have scoured Europe for a rightsided midfield player since Kanchelskis left for Everton, ing price of at least £4.5 million.

United's former England in-ternational defender Paul Parker yesterday scotched rumours that he is anxious to leave the club. "I would be happier in the first team but I have not asked for a trans-

reteran striker Lee Chapman last night rejoined Leeds United. Only three weeks short of his 37th birthday, he has returned on loan from Ipswich Town

Chapman strengthens a severely depleted squad. David White and Noel Whelan have been sold, Brian Deane is suspended and Tony may be absent for up to six weeks playing in the African Nations' Cup, in which Guinea yesterday declined the opportunity to replace

Nigeria. Notts County yesterday signed the striker Tony Battersby for £200,000 from Shef-field United, who also sold Rob Scott, another striker, to Fulham for £40,000. Reading have paid £40,000

for the Plymouth goalkeeper Nicky Hammond, who has impressed during a three-match loan spell, and the Plymouth midfielder Wayne £100,000 move to Bolton.

York City have put Paul Barnes up for sale after being unable to agree a new con-

Scottish Premier Div: Hibs 1, Aberdeen 2

Patrick Glenn

KENNY Dalglish gets serious about Aberdeen's teenage midfielder Stephen Glass, he will have to make another hole in Jack Walker's pocket-money Blackburn's director of football watched another sweet performance from Glass at Easter Road, but the 19-year-old recently signed a contract to keep him at Pittodrie until 1998.

Dalglish could turn to Eoin Jess — his contract expires in other telling player for the Pittodrie side last night.

Aberdeen had been in cold storage for the previous three weeks but they warmed up in twice and generally terrorising the home defence through the first half. They were unable to capitalise on their posone back for Hibs in the 88th he appeared to back-hand

Hibs' challenge appeared to be snuffed out as abruptly as

skilful young player, pulled a shot from the left wide of the devastating centre from which Miller scored. Jess had played the ball to McKimmie on the left as Glass spurted his stride, he delivered it low

Aberdeen needed a lines-man's testimony for their second, after Dodds headed Miller's corner from the left over the line from six yards the referee unsighted, but the linesman made the correct

minute.

Early in the first half Watt made a fine one-handed save from McAllister. who had bolted into the penalty area on to Tweed's pass, before

Glass early in the second half. Hilbernium Leighton: Millen. Torrolano, McCininy, Tweed. Hunter. McAllister. McAllister. MacAllister. McAllister. MacAllister. McAllister. MacAllister. Mindass. Bernard. Dodds. Jess Referees W Young (Clarkston).

Glass, an intelligent and

far post, but then supplied the down the flank to receive the next pass. Taking the ball in across the six-yard box with such pace and accuracy that Miller had only to stab it over the line with his right foot.





Spiked Gunners... David Platt (left) has yet to justify his £4.75 million fee; Glenn Helder (above) has yet to provide the service required; Dennis Bergkamp (right) was called up by Holland and got injured; Tony Adams (below left) picked up a suspension and a stomach bug; Stève Bould (below right) got suspended and injured





# Glass breaks Hibs Old guard on way out at Arsenal

Martin Thorpe discovers that Bruce Rioch is running out of patience and is ready to ring the changes at Highbury

IS patience had finally given out after the home defeat by Wimbledon, two days before the new year began. Bruce Rioch had been so alarmed at Arone win in the previous seven league games — that he kept the team back in the dressing room for 70 minutes after the final whistle.

European nations after three decades of intermittent Test

was technically an A interna-

come regular visitors to Brit-

this season's inaugural Hein-

together the Six Nations

Championship is certain to be high on the agenda.

5 Nottes Forest 6 OPR

FURST DIVE

"This is the first time have had to take this action," he admitted. "But the perfor-mance merited it; so much was missing from our game. The time was right; things had to be said."

The match became utterly He described what went on session in the second half and wretched for Hibs when as a "critique ... a long condefeated at Newcastle in the ams and Winterburn has been Harper even managed to pull McGinlay was sent off when versation about what hap league, and on Saturday in showing signs of age and, at pened in that match and other aspects at the club". The coaching staff had their say, and the players had theirs. But, stressed Rioch, "there were no raised voices, nothing like that".

himself to the niceties of debating society rules in such a all miss with injuries.
tense situation is difficult to Rioch had hinted at his unaccommodate. And indeed, according to sources close to the club, the meeting was far stormler than Rioch admitted. There were raised voices and at least one player went eyeball to eyeball in a shoutng match with the manager. Rioch had ended the honey

moon period that had lin-gered since his summer home truths had to be told. The immediate response has not been encouraging. The team were comfortably the FA Cup struggled to draw at home to Sheffield United, second bottom of the First

Tomorrow comes what could be the pivotal point of crosses Rioch deems Arsenal's season, a Coca-Cola to a potent attack.

The thought of such a disci-plinarian as Rioch confining to Newcastle, which Berg kamp, Bould and Platt could

happiness with the team after the December 16 home draw with Chelsea. He said five months of appraisal had shown him just how much rebuilding work was required; it was time to stop tarting up George Graham's side and model his own.

There had been many warning signs. A run of injuries, suspensions and international call-ups had exposed a serious lack of depth in the squad. The once impregnable back line of Dixon, Bould, Adthe other end of the field. Arsenal's wingers, from Helder to Merson and now to the youngster Clarke, have been failing to get in the sort of but shortly afterwards Berg-kamp left to join up with Hol-

With Rioch reputedly having £10 million to spend, picked up a serious injury Arsenal have recently been linked with all sorts of new from a cartilage operation. players, from Paul Ince, Chris Sutton and Gheorghe Hagi to Bolton's Alan Stubbs and the midfielder Emerson. No men-tion yet of Rosewall or Laver.

For the short term, Rioch has been urging his players to get back to what they do best. "Against Wimbledon, too many players were out there but not part of the game," he says. "We were only part of the game when we had possession. We were disjointed and didn't perform as a unit. "I reminded the players that they reached the heights of third place in the table in

October by good passing and movement, good teamwork and being positive. We've got to get back to that." The disruption to continukey players has not helped. The team had peaked in a 4-2 nome victory over Sheffield

Wednesday on November 21,

Since that game against Wednesday, Arsenal have been a shadow of their earlyseason selves, a problem com-pounded by the recent ab-sence through suspension of

Bould and Adams and the drain on team confidence that comes from defeat in three of the last four league games. One of Arsenal's biggs worries has been Platt's alarming loss of form. He scored twice in his first four outings, but since returning from his operation has been wandering through games

like a lost soul at a party. The reason we bought him was to release him from midfield when the time was right and get on the end of crosses and through-balls in the pen-alty box," says Rinch in the player's defence. "But when you haven't got enough possession in good areas it doesn't release him from that

and it's one aspect of the game we're not brilliant at. We don't put enough quality crosses or passes into the box from key areas." Only the consistent brilliance of lan Wright has saved Arsenal from more embarrassments. ahead, rebuilding the side while maintaining results. Time will tall whether he is



but shortly afterwards Berg-kamp left to join up with Hol-land for the game with Ire-the box like he does, you've Rioch . . . shouting match

Rugby Union

# Canada's cap in the ring Hull steps in for England

Robert Armstrong

ANADA will shortly join Italy and Romania on a shortlist of ambitious candidates seeking entry into an expanded Five Nations Championship for the 1997-98 season and The Canadian Rugby Union is convinced that the best way

ture list on a regular basis is to persuade the Five Nations committee that Canada should be included in the game's oldest international tournament. The Rugby Football Union, which hopes to get the championship dates switched to March/April from 1998 onwards, has undertaken to look positively at the options for broadening the scope of

Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, has acknowledged that the television contract. which comes up for re-negotiation next year, could involve "a new package of games,

some of which might be ter-finals of the 1991 World played on Sundays" instead Cup. put them on an equal of the traditional Saturday competitive footing with the double-headers.

Canada's enhanced compet

itive standing in the last two World Cups and their capacity to host national tours by France. England and Wales have created an aura of credibility among the Five Nations in recent seasons that could pave the way for their acceptance. "Change is what we are about at Twickenham, and I

think that also applies to the Five Nations Championship." said Hallett. ''Canada and European

countries such as Italy and Romania, with whom we have played a couple of times in recent seasons, do merit care ful consideration. A lot of different factors — for instance the format of the champion ship, and better scheduling of fixtures — are likely to go

into the melting pot."

Canada's victories over France and Wales, achieved after they reached the quarfor England A Paris match

PAUL HULL, England's A captain in Australia last summer, reverts to the right wing for the game against France A in Paris on Friday week.

Likewise, Italy's 29-17 vic-tory over Scotland in what The versatile Bristol cap-tain, a full-back for his tional last Saturday will have boosted their status among club, replaces Bath's Jon Sleightholme in the side that beat Western Samoa the Five Nations. The Italians, who caused England some embarrassment in the last two World Cups, have be-55-0 last month. Sleightholme will be in

the senior England team in the Five Nations opener at the Parc des Princes the ain and Ireland in the Wales, who play host to Italy in Cardiff next Tuesday, following day. The 31-year-old former Scotland prop Pete Jones is being released by Gloucesand France are likely to look favourably upon an Italian application, as all three ter, who are trimming their nations have been involved in squad to 45 players.

ENGLAND A: T Stimpson (Wost Hartingoot). P Hatti (Bristo): W Grasswood, P Hensah (both Hartingos): Adebaye (Benn A King (Gristol University). A Gonsternall (Waspo): P Hardwick (Coventry). P Greening (Goucester). D Garforth (Letceter). G Archer (Bristol). D Sens (Glucceter). G Corry (Bristol): R Jesham (Hartinguns). A Diprose (Saracens. capi) Replacements: A Right (Wast Hartingoot). R Liley (Salo): A Hesing (Orroll). K Yebes (Buth). eken European Cup.
Last spring France and
lialy hatched an ultimately
unsuccessful plan to host the
1999 World Cup. The next
time they put their heads

### Athletics

### Atlanta hint in Christie's indoor plans

all, defend his 100 metres Olympic title in Atlanta grew yesterday when he agreed to run at two indoor meetings in Britain next month.

He will appear at the Ricoh Tour meeting at Birming-ham's National Indoor Arena

as yet, signalled a change of some might see it that way. At the end of last season he said he would take part only in selected events this year and would not run the 100m at the

Olympics.

Given continued fitness
Christie. who turns 36 in
April, clearly could earn big
money on this summer's
Grand Prix circuit, although
another major championship
might be one too many. He
lost his world title in Gothenburg last year with an injury.
One suggestion is that he
could compete in the Olympic
relay and thus put one or two
of Britain's younger sprinters
in with a chance of a bronze

If nothing else, his presence indoors will be a muchneeded lift for a financially

nounced on Thursday. Christie's decision to run may also be seen as a further indication of better relations between the leading competitors and the British Athletic Federation.

Birmingham on January 27.

clubs to include sides from England and Scotland next season, the competition direc-tor Vernon Pugh confirmed. Wales, France and England could all have four represen-

tatives. Scotland and Ireland | Olympic qualifying tourns three and Italy one. The final | ment starting in Manchester place may be decided by a play-off between a second Italian club and the Romanian champions. The inaugural competition was won by Tou-

louse on Sunday. Table Tennis

The former world champion

Jorgen Persson is the top before the Australian Open name in a strong entry for the next week.

tomorrow, writes Richard Tennis

Todd Martin brushed aside Germany's Martin Sinner 6-1, 6-2 in the first round of the Peters International in Sydney, the last tournament

Soccer

Rugby Union

Rugby League STONES CENTENARY CHARPS Second Division: Charley v High ice Hockey

### Teamtalk The Independent News Reports Service

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8 Derby 9 Luten 10 Milwall 11 Cidham 12 Portsmo 13 Stoke 14 Transport 16 Mailard 26 37 09 SECOND DIVISION 10 20 Hull 21 Oxford 22 Peterbot

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Pools Forecast ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE

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BELL'S SCOTTIS

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SCOTTISH FERST

Fortor Stanbstrute Gucen of South v Caledonian v East Stirling

Stephen Bierley

CONJECTURE that Linford Christie might, after

on February 10 and the Mc-Donald's Britain v France match at Glasgow's Kelvin Hall on February 24. His participation has not,

Olympics.
Given continued fitness

in with a chance of a bronze medal this summer - and perhaps something better if

struggling sport. Just before Christmas British athletics lost one of its main sponsors. KP: a new sponsor will be an-

The opening major meeting of the indoor season will be the Bupa International between Britain and Russia in

### Sport in brief .......................

### Rugby Union

The Heineken European Cup is likely to be expanded to 20

Results Soccer

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

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Golf

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Cricket TOUR MATCH: Whamparel: Zunbahwe 274-7 doc (D Houghton 85, A Flower 33, A am 207-4 doc (G Flower 33, A Campbell 50no), Academy XI 213-1 doc (R Lawson 113no, M Bell 83, and 107-1 Match drawn 113no, M Bell 83, and 107-1 Match drawn 274, n

American Football ice Hockey

ICE HOCKEY

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3: Bulfalo (18-19-3-127-137-33). Attentice
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136-133-544, 3: Philadelphia (23-11-7,
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133-118-491. Pacific Divisions 1.
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(14-15-10-145-136-38)

Sancoker

Tennis

Tashanian Women's Tournament
(Hobart): First rounds & Wistoner (Aut) bt
Leo (US) 6-2, 6-3, El Unborderer (Aut) bt
Leo (US) 6-2, 6-3, El Unborderer (Aut) bt
Leo (US) 6-2, 6-4, El Unborderer (Aut) bt
Makarbus (Rus) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1, 884Img Warrs (Tai) bt L Richterora (C2) 6-2,
G-4, M Ende (Japan) bt Y Wintinger-Jones
(US) 5-1, 6-3, K Godridge (Aus) bt K Studer/Mova (Sio) 2-6, 7-6, 6-3
PETERES INTERNATIONAL TOURNAL
MEMT (Sydnoy): Meter First rounds Y
Martin (US) bt M Sinner (Gor) 6-1, 6-2, 5
Costa (Sp) bt B Ullwach (C2) 6-4, 5-7,
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(Chie) 6-1, 7-6, 4 Schriebsberg (Aus) bt F
Dovulf (Bel) 6-2, 6-3, Wetters First
round: N Braditic (Aus) bt K Nowa (Poil
6-1, 6-1, A Coster (SA) bt A Shobbs (Aus)
6-2, 6-0, M de Swerett (SA) bt S Appelmans (Bol) 6-7, 7-6, 6-6 rest, A Franker
(US) bt A Gavaldon (Met) 7-5, 7-5, A
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6-2
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Confirm Device:

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1 Detroit (22-13-161-117-55); 2 Los An(16-15-10-146-133-38)

STROCKET

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WRU MOMENTA COMP (7.0): Poel As Abercyton v Brana; Pontypoel v Cross Keys, B: Llandcovery v Durwant: Tenby Uta v Narberm, Cs Georphilly v Llanharan; S Wales Police v Cardiff liest. De Meesteg v Tondu. Yetradgyfilals v Bonymaen

# Smith in, Smith out, White back, bring on the motley

Mike Selvey on a different England going into the opening dav-nighter in Cape Town instead of relying on the original large personnel, for long handle to the opposing instead of relying on the original large personnel, for long handle to the opposing instead of relying on the original large personnel, for long handle to the opposing instead of relying on the original large personnel, for long handle to the opposing instead of relying on the original large personnel. into the opening day-nighter in Cape Town

evening to hear the fat man sing, but Luciano Pavarotti rather missed a trick by omitting On With The Motley from his open-air performance in the winelands

That would certainly have been helpful — especially as some reports said the "King of the High Cs" bottled the finish to Nessun Dorma - because this evening, here in the final match last week. under the lights of Newlands, England and South Africa jettison their Test-match white for coloured pyjamas and the first of, God help us, seven

one-day internationals. There is method in this apparent madness. When the days and we got 265,000 in 17 United Cricket Board of days," said Bacher. "It indisouth Africa devised this cates tremendous support for winter's schedule it was mindful that a public which had been allowed to gorge on one-day cricket during the isolation years had to be led back towards Test matches.

Canoeing

HEY came in their aging director Dr Ali Bacher thousands on Sunday put it, was to create a Test

To do that, it was felt, the distraction of limited-overs internationals had to be packaged and sold after the Test into it, as is the interminable Australian World Series

Despite the weather, Test attendances were good, culminating in the record sell-out released yesterday, crowds for the rain-affected series nearly hit target levels de-spite the loss of almost a third of the possible playing days. "We budgeted for 275,000 in 25

In addition to that, of course, separating the series allows players to focus minds and channel energies into one form of cricket at a time The idea, as the board's man- rather than mix-and-match-

party England can now wheel in the specialists.

So we now say goodbye to Devon Malcolm, Angus Fraser, Jason Gallian, John Crawley and Mark Ilott, and today sees the introduction to serious tour action of the Neils, Smith and Fairbrother, Dermot Reeve OBE and Craig White, with Phil DeFreitas

waiting in the wings.
It all makes sense. With the tralians are now studying their hitters' one-day strike rates and have found, for ex-Test series over, both countries need to make final decisions about next month's

So the seven matches will be played in the space of 13 days, four of them under lights, starting here and proceeding via Bloemfontein, Centurion, Johannesburg, Durban and East London before winding up in Port Eliza-beth on Sunday week. In that time we will see ex

In the first of an occasional series on Olympic hopefuls, Peter Nichols reports on a remarkable dynasty

perimentation, though truly innovative strategies such as the hall. Four: players who, in the words of the former England manager Keith Fletcher, field like bastards. the Kiwis produced at the last World Cup — where the off-spinner Dipak Patel took the Already Raymond Illingnew ball and the thrasher

Train-load of paddlers on the right track

We will also see a cruel

shuffling of the pack, with some players thrust into the limelight and others faded

out. The final 14 England

squad members to go to India and Pakistan will be named

The demands of the modern

one-day game are specific. Item one: batsmen who score

freely and quickly. The Aus-

ample, that Michael Slater

opening partner Mark Taylor and much more slowly than

Mark Waugh; as a result

Item two: bowlers capable of bowling rigidly to a plan. Three: all-rounders, men

from cricket's pick-and-mix counter, who lend depth to

the batting and variety with

Waugh may open.

scores more slowly than his

straight after the series



Jack Russell's Test glovenatting adhesive — wags suggested he open the batting to enable Alec Stewart to concentrate on his wicketkeeping - but a balanced one-day side lemands that Stewart resume his wicketkeeping role. How-ever, now he does so on the understanding that Russell's Test place is secure.

In addition to Stewart, then, England's best batting side certainly includes Atherton, Thorpe, Hick and Fair-brother, as for today. Not too much should be read into the omission of Ramprakash or Robin Smith, as both are still in the frame for this series and the World Cup beyond.

The bowling today is in the hands of Cork, Martin and Gough, with back-up from Neil Smith's off-spin and the all-rounders White and

will start here with what he considers to be his strongest side and take it from there. should be incorporated into the think-tank.
The South Africa team is

likely to be rearranged, with the wicketkeeper Dave Rich-ardson opening the batting, Brian McMillan going in at No. 3, and hitting roles down the order going to Cullinan, Rhodes and Cronje, who is deemed their best hitter of spin. Kallis, rated here as a

one-day player, could play a surprise role in this series. will come from Donald, Pol-lock and Matthews, with support from McMillan and Kal-lis. It remains to be seen how ams will cope with one-day constraints at this level; the home side can also call on the specialist one-day spinners a useful batsman.

# **England well** trained for one-day rush

**David Hopps** sees World Cup success taking the edge off Test-match failure

ISORIENTATION often sets in on long cricket tours. Darren Gough, more susceptible than most, was once asked on a tour to South Africa by England A w he would like to spend

the next day.
"I'd let the lads go down
the beach," he replied without hesitation. "They've worked hard and they de-serve it." Then be was reminded that he was in Pretoria.

Gough happily concedes that geography was never his strong suit, but Eng-land, who have completed yet another overseas Test series by becoming history, might welcome a change of subject, even one which dominates the timetable to a ludicrous extent.

To reach the World Cup final in Lahore in mid-March, England first have to negotiate a frenzied 9% weeks consisting of 15 oneday internationals in 14 towns and cities. At one point they actually play back-to-back fixtures in Peshawar, and if they recover from the shock they might find time to unpack a

suitcase.
In terms of World Cup preparation the South Af-rica one-day games are en-tirely superfluous. The World Cup contrives to serve as its own warm-up, with all 10 countries playing five qualifying matches just for the sake of losing the bottom side in each group — ample time to sort out teething problems. Constant travelling, dis-

turbed sleep, rushed meals and hasty practice sessions mean that to escape injury to a key player will be an achievement in itself. Having lost the Test series it is as if England are setting off on a major bender. Why drink to forget when you can just hop on to another aeropiane?

In between switching continents the players will return to England for about endeavour to reacquaint tials of life such as their names, addresses and PIN numbers, and which child wears the little green outfit with the Postman Pat motif. At least the one-day series in Australia can be relied upon for the same

are close to signing the South African pace bowler Shaun Pollock as their overseas

player for next season and Lara's agent Jonathan Bar-nett yesterday ruled out the

West Indian playing elsewhere in the championship.

"Brian won't be playing county cricket next season,"

Barnett said. "We have a gen-

Rugby League

Lara decides to stay away

BRIAN LARA will not play | Warwickshire about the 1996 season and as far as I am conmer after all. Warwickshire | carned that agreement is go-

tleman's agreement with with Australia in Melbourne.

**Bentley puts Halifax before** 

tomfoolery. The lucky two-some among Australia, Sri Lanka and West Indies who qualify for the final of the current Benson and Hedges World Series will play 11 matches each before the World Cup begins in mid-February. February.

England can console themselves that this is what their first-class upbringing prepares them for. The county game has long been detrimental to the de-velopment of a successful Test side, both in the amount of cricket played and in the preponderance of one-day matches.

England's attitudes were reportedly exemplary in South Africa. Michael Atherton was far more in tune with the mood of his squad than he was in Australia a year ago. But how many times did Sky TV reveal batsmen struggling to lo-cate their off stump or bowlers lacking sparkle,

the simple delights of bowling long forgotten?
An overloaded domestic programme educates our top players in keeping going and in preserving energy whenever possible; it does not foster the pursuit

'This is what their first-class upbringing prepares the players for'

of excellence. The forma tion this spring of the English Cricket Board (to replace the Test and County Cricket Board) offers an opportunity for change which the compla-cent and the traditionalists will combine to overlook.

Such entrenched attitudes will continue to undermine England's Test performances, but in the World Cup they might actually prove beneficial.

Quick forties by Stewart. Thorpe and Fairbrother; Reeve interfering wherever he is not welcome; Neil tive off-spin; and Gough dazzling again in the form of cricket he most under-stands and loves: add such exhibited in the Test series by Atherton, Hick, Russell triumph is not out of the question.

Considering the present mournful climate, the odds will never get better.

ing to be honoured."
● Sri Lanka's captain Arjuna

Ranatunga said his side might continue to field the contro-

versial off-spinner Muttiah

Muralitharan during their

tour of Australia. "It depends on what umpires we get," he said, adding that Muralitharan had not been ruled out of today's World Series clash



Pulling together . . . the Train crew (left to right), Mark, Stephen, David, Andrew and Rachel

Twenty-five years ago David Train arrived in the village and transformed it

founding the Fladbury Canoe Club. In its brief existence the club has nurtured more than 70 international paddlers (junior and senior), and Train, through a tale that would grace a George Eliot novel, created a paddling

With three children and three stepchildren, all of whom have paddled for Brit-ain, David Train is worth a story on his own, but this is

Stephen and Andrew Train belong to the Fladbury dynasty, a contrasting couple as they sit in their father's house. Stephen, mild and halting in his interjections but with the shoulders of a young bull elephant; Andrew, sharp-eyed and angular, a so-licitor who needs no soliciting to talk.

They have paddled together since one was nine and the other 10. They are now 33 and 34, on their third Olympic Games and dangerously close to spoiling a tradition: they could win a sprint medal in

Slalom canosists have gained Britain a reputation for paddling. Richard Fox won five individual world titles on the white water and ships. Shaun Pearce, Gareth Marriott and, this year, Lynn Simpson have all enhanced the slalomists' reputation.

On the still waters of sprint canoeing, however, there have been few ripples of inter Flatwater canoeing, or sprint

stage — an Olympic history that goes back to 1936 — and not once has a Briton struck gold or anything else. It is a long time to go without an Olympic medal; it is a long ime to go without a near

If you ever need to rethink your life, climb into a Canadian cance. It presents a unique set of problems. The left-right, blade-twisting, shoulder-rolling motion of the kayak is the common percep-tion of canoeing. The Cana-dian canoeist kneels in the boat and shovels backwards, just like the Indians in the Western movies. It is difficult and simple at the same time, more difficult and simple

The brothers Train took to it to the extent that by 1981, when they were still teen-agers, they contested their first world championship in the 10,000 metres and finished seventh. The distance events could have been their future but had a short tenure in the mainstream of the sport and crucially, are now excluded from the Olympics. A shame really, because in the inter-vening years the brothers Train have proved to be just about the best paddlers in the

It was a Hungarian, Istvan Vaskuti, who unlocked one of the secrets in the autumn of 1990. The nine times world much English but that September, as Andrew ex-plains, "We taught him English and the things that he taught us are now changing

the sport in Britain". The message that per-suaded Stephen to come out of retirement and fired up Andrew again was that, at the catch — the moment when the paddle digs into the water - the paddler's weight must go into the paddle.

It was simple. Even you understand what he means. Put your weight into the paddle as you pull through the water and you are making the boat lighter and faster. So bloc so good. Well, it couldn't all have been drugs.

Has their career spiralled since? Well, almost World Cup marathon champions in 1989 they represed the feet that is what made the Eastern

1989, they repeated the feat this year. They were silver medallists in the 10,000m in the 1993 world championships, but their greatest achievement was Andrew's in 1991 when he won the bronze in the C2 (Canadian doubles) 10,000m

left, to the back of the boat. The new set-up scared some-body, perhaps, because at the next world marathon champi-onships in Amsterdam they

But the sprint times were improving. It seems bizarre that in the canoe world you can switch from racing at 42km to a single kilometre, but

on his own in the Ci 10,000m.

In 1993, Vaskuti encouraged a second change, moving Andrew, who paddled to the left, to the back of the boat.

bow of their cance prior to thing in common: they are basically aerobic exercises.

A week before they won the World Cup this year, the they are to beat the Hungarian favourites Horvath and Kolonics. They will perhaps need one more secret from the training of the proving. It seems bizarre with his brother only three onships in Amsterdam they last on the last of hours before taking the bronze found two holes drilled in the lackward shovelling have one in Atlanta they will need to seen.

need one more secret from the man who has taken them this I,000m at the world sprint championships, the best ever British sprint performance in a world championship.

In the world sprint man who has taken them this far, another Hungarian but whether Vaskuti has one last card to play remains to be but whether Vaskuti has one last card to play remains to be

former NHL player Doug

Small's return to the British

League for the Welsh club, against the side he played for

two seasons ago, was marked

by a facial cut from an acci-

reinforcements in the wake of

the Bosman case; the Finnish

defenceman Pasi Unkuri flew

### Paul Fitzpatrick

OHN BENTLEY, the Halifax and England winger, said yesterday that an "off the cuff" remark about a return to rugby union with Rother-ham had been "blown out of all proportion". He said he was excited

about the advent of Super League and intended to fulfil the three-year contract he recently signed with Halifax.
It was no secret, said Bentley, 29, that he would like to play for Rotherham, the Courage League Three club, in the close season, "but nothing is close season, "but nothing is decided yet as I've to get Halifax's say-so first. One thing I can confirm, however, is that I will be at Halifax for the next three years."

Nigel Wood, Halifax's chief executive, said Bentley had approached the board about the possibility of playing rugby union in the close sea-son. "Although still under discussion it is clear that certain financial and insurance considerations would be required to protect the club's investment in the player before this scenario could even be contemplated."

dental high stick wielded by Fife's Richard Dingwall Nottingham are the latest club to look to Europe for Steve Cousins, Rotherham's manager, said that his club have a verbal agreement with Bentley that he will play for them next season, but he then qualified his remarks.

"If contractually he is not allowed to play rugby union. that is out of our hands. We would be happy to talk to

union return at Rotherham Halifax about the situation,"

Warrington have signed the ward Les Davidson, who scored four tries in 22 appearances for them in 1988-89. Davidson was registered before the Challenge Cup dead-line and it is hoped that he will provide invaluable expe-rience during what could prove to be difficult final

weeks of the season. Warrington were beaten 80-0 in the Regal Trophy semi-finals by St Helens, a defeat which led to the resignation of their Australian coach Brian Johnson. Then on Sunday, under the control of Clive Griffiths, the Wales national coach, they were beaten 54-14 by the same op-ponents and had two men

### **Cricket** England tour to SA

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### Boxing

### Supreme Court rejects Tyson rape appeal

HE Supreme Court has to win the heavyweight title, out comment. The high court rejected an appeal by the was released from an Indiana justices had in 1994 turned former world heavyweight prison on March 25 after served down a similar appeal. champion Mike Tyson seek- ing about half of his six-year ing to overturn his 1992 con-

viction for rape. release from prison, was found guilty of raping Desiree Washington in his hotel room

tant in a beauty pageant.

Tyson had been making a guest appearance at the contest and told Miss Washing- witz also argued in the appeal ton he wanted to have sex with her. The rape occurred

became the youngest fighter | Court denied the appeal with- | years," he said.

sentence.

riction for rape.

In his Supreme Court appeal claiming that his constihas won two fights since his intional rights had been violated, Tyson challenged the now-discontinued state system under which prosecutors in Indianapolis in 1991 when | had the power to help select she was an 18-year-old contes- the judge who presided over

The Harvard University that several defence witwith her. The rape occurred hat night.

Tyson, who at the age of 20

 Brendan Ingle, the man who has guided Naseem Hamed to the world feather weight title, yesterday tipped a novice heavyweight. Pele Reid, to go to the top as well. The 22-year-old from Bir

mingham, son of a football-mad father, has only one pro-fessional fight under his belt but Ingle believes the former world kick-boxing champion has shown enough potential in that knockout win and in

the gymnasium. "He's quick can punch and can become British and European champion in three

### ice Hockey

### Superleague backers deny start will be delayed

Vic Batchelder

ORGANISERS of a proposed all-professional domestic Superleague have denied that the starting date will be put back 12 months to September 1997.

Speaking before yesterday's meeting in Manchester of the British League management committee, Robert Zeller, communications director of Ice Hockey Superleague Limited, said: "The original target launch date of next September is still viable."

Further developments are likely on Thursday when the superleague backers present player-coach Mike Blaisdell. more details of their propos-

als to a meeting of the British | in a 9-1 hammering of the Ice Hockey Association coun- hapless Flyers in Cardiff. The cil in London. Meanwhile, Cardiff Devils'

Premier Division lead is down to a single point after Sheffield Steelers in second place and one point behind them, Nottingham Panthers each picked up three points from two games over the weekend. Sheffield and Nottingham

drew 3-3 in Nottingham on Saturday and Steelers beat Fife Flyers 9-1 on Sunday, Tony Hand, Nicky Chinn and Ron Shudra all scoring twice. Panthers beat a lacklustre Basingstoke Bison 5-3 thanks

in for a trial yesterday. Durham Wasps are hoping international clearance for another Finn, Mikko Niemi, will arrive in time for him to player-coach Mike Blaisdell.

Devils' only game resulted field tomorrow.

# Sports Guardian

# Clubs set to take on Uefa

Martin Thorpe

UROPE's top clubs are on a collision course with Uefa over the number of foreigners they can field in European matches. The clubs may threaten to start their own European competition if they do not get European cup-winning

clubs such as Manchester United, AC Milan, Bayern Munich, Real Madrid and Ajax will confront Uefa at a meeting in February.

They want Uefa to allow clubs to field an unlimited number of European Union nationals in European club matches, in line with the recent Bosman ruling. Uefa is demanding that clubs stick to the current rule of three for eigners — including EU na-tionals — plus two assimi-

"It's difficult to speculate what might happen at the meeting," said the Mancheswatkins, "but the top clubs have a lot of muscle. The recent trend is for Uefa to try and control football, but surely they are there to run the competitions within the law. And we feel the new laws

The problem does not immediately affect British clubs as only Nottingham Forest are left in Europe and they currently do not have more than three foreigners. But other clubs face a di-

lemma if they wish to field more than three. To do so would almost certainly lead to Uefa banning them from European competition. But challenging the cup rules in court could also lead to a Uefa ban.

The Premier League held a seminar yesterday on the lat-est legal interpretation of the whole Bosman ruling. The FA. Football League and Profes-sional Footballers' Association representatives of other sports.

The Premier League's legal view is that clubs cannot receive fees for out-of-contract players sold between EU countries. Whether this extends to transfers within a country will be discussed with the European Commission when the league visits Brus-sels on Thursday, The league is anxious to retain the current domestic system of tribu-nal-fixed fees, which could be adopted Europe-wide.

### RECORD-BREAKING FLY-HALF JOINS STRUGGLING LONDONERS



Formidable line-up . . . Lynagh flanked by Saracens' chief executive Mike Smith (left) and the millionaire Nigel Wray

# Lynagh captured by Saracens

lan Malin on the coup by the rugby union club who have found a millionaire benefactor

ambitious transfer since the sport became professional five months ago with tralia fly-half and captain Michael Lynagh. The capture of one of rugby's most glamor ous names is on a par with soccer's Ruud Gullit joining Chelses last year.

When Lynagh first visited England with an Australian Schools side 14 years ago be and his young team-mates were shooed off the Twickenham pitch by a jobsworth makes a return to London to a both players, with Lynagh

ARACENS yesterday club whose council-owned announced English ground is the exercise yard for half the dogs in Southgate. But now the 32-year-old Lyn-agh, who in those 14 years has run up an international rewelcomed to the capital with

open arms. lose in the mud against Wasps last weekend — unveiled their new signing yesterday at a French restaurant in central London. The French connection led many to believe that the centre Philippe Sella was on his way to north London. Saracens, two places off keen to protect the hallowed the bottom of Courage League turf. Next season the fly-half One, have been talking to

up rival offers from Harlequins and Wasps. Lynagh, who has spent the

past five years in Italy with Treviso, has signed a threeyear deal believed to be worth at least £80,000 a year. But his present contract in Italy and Iwickenham's 180-day mora-Queenslander will be unable to play until September.

Saracens, who in recen vears have lost such plavers Ben Clarke and Justyn Cas sell, are now turning the tables on their more illustrious rivals thanks to a £2.5 million injection of share can ital from the millionaire businessman Nigel Wray. This people to the month the Shannon and Ire-players and land flanker Eddie Halvey resources of will be joining them, and the

last month agreeing to join | Wales squad scrum-half Rob-them and Sella still weighing | ert Howley has also signed registration forms.

Lynagh retired after the World Cup when the "drop goal that went round the world" from his opposite number Rob Andrew sent England into the semi-finals at the expense of the world same age as Lynagh, has also since retired from the inter-

national game, to help revive Sir John Hall's newly profes-sionalised Newcastle Gosforth. "I've only played for two clubs, the University of Queensland and Treviso, so I didn't take this decision lightly," Lynagh said yester-day. "My role is to attract people to the club, assist players and help pool our resources of junior players "I was described as being in the autumn of my career, which is probably true but I haven't noticed many leaves

falling off just yet." Mike Smith, the club's chief executive, said that Lynagh might be playing at a new home next season. "We hope to be playing at a new arena a stadium."

And Lynagh's captain and rospective half-back partner Brian Davies quickly brough the new man down to earth.
"Mike is a superstar and the players are excited by his arrival, but he will need a sense of humour once he joins us for that first training session. Then he'll be just another Sarrie. And from what I've seen of him he'll fit in

Set by Quantum

### losing side trophy aloft. Who can imagin that the rewards of rugby's European Cup will be any less beneficial? There will be other, happier parallels with soccer. On Sun-day it took a while to get used to the fact that the French

Euro-sceptics

finish on the

Richard Williams

T COST £30,000, yet it looks like a kindergarten class's attempt to make a Christ-mas decoration out of the innards of a discarded TV set

and a pot of silver paint. The

sort of thing, in other words, that might bring its creator

the Turner Prize in a particu-larly barren year.
Holding it aloft in triumph on Sunday afternoon, Stade Toulousain's players had to be

careful not to impale them-selves on its various spiky

protrusions. But, as they had just finished showing us,

Heineken's European Cup is definitely worth playing for.

The French club's tumultu-

ous victory over Cardiff provided marvellous entertain-ment for the 20-odd thousand

inside the Arms Park and for those at home who did not pre

claims of the FA Cup or Serie A. Quite clearly this was the best thing to happen to

rugby since the invention of the World Cup, and by the end

of the decade it will have as-

fer the competing televised

were wearing the red shirts and the Welsh were in blue, but that merely provided a useful reminder that this was not an international but an inter-club match. In that light, and bearing in

mind the consequences of the new free market, those who enjoyed the Real Madrid of Di Stefano and Puskas and the Juventus of Platini and Bonthe electric atmosphere of a a Racing Club de France team

Sunday. When a Frenchman received the ball, he looked around him and usually found a colleague running into space at a cunning angle and invit-ing a pass. When a Welshman

Only Cardiff's spirit kept cer teams in European dogged physical commitment.

sumed just as significant a role in the European game. As the Welsh pulled level with the last kick of normal time, only to be denied by Christophe Deylaud's penalty in the dying moments of the extra half-hour, the real losers were the game's administrators in England and Scotland. That is no surprise. By deny-

ing their players the chance to participate in this inaugural tournament they were selling themselves a dummy, simply maintaining the level of decision-making that has cost them eaving their sport ripe for the Murdoch takeover. zying momentum. S WE know, those who

ignore history are doomed to repeat it. Forty years ago the brilliant minds of the Football Association kept English clubs out of the first European Cup, a competition that has subsequently given untold amounts of pleasure to enthusiasts around the continent, regaling us with the expidits of Cruyff, Müller, Platini and

their successors. Eventually it also enriched. spiritually and materially, those English clubs whose representatives have held the

iek will find it easy to imagine European cup tie between, say, a Bath XV featuring Joei Stransky and Jeff Wilson and with Robert Jones and Ches-ter Williams. And there will be hard les-sons, as there already were on

was put in possession, invari-ably his only option was the obvious one — easily read, easily nullified. them in the game. It was, to an almost spooky degree, like watching various British socmatches this season: the same

TILL, it was a great cup final, and a powerful harbinger of better There's a skill and speed that makes it a couple of levels above league rugby," Adrian Davies Cardiff's stand-off. said afterwards. Only by con-

stantly exposing themselves to competition at this level can the players of the British Isles overcome their limitalenge of a world game hurtling towards the future with a diz-Rugby is currently in such turmoil that when the Sunday

Times, a Murdoch paper, men tioned in its story last weekend that this year's Five Nations Championship would begin in June, the reader's first reponse was to assume that this was not a slip of the pen but an exclusive on Sky TV's latest coup. One thing is for sure: tickets

for next year's European Cup final will be a lot harder to come by. Whatever the blazers may think about it, Europe's rugby men are now playing for something greater than a funny-shaped trophy.

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His school supplied boys to play urchins in various operas at Covent Garden, and Johnson was regularly clutched to Maria Callas's bosom. One friend describes this as "the defining moment of Frank's life".

# Horse laugh at the double

### case of mistaken identity at Southwell

HEN a trainer delib-erately substitutes one horse for another it is called a ringer: when he does it without knowing, it is a cock-up for which racing was unprepared yesterday.

At the centre of the drama was the veteran trainer Reg Hollinshead, who took two horses to Southwell races: Taniyar. due to run first, and Loch Style. Both are bay geldings of similar cast — and therein lay the problem. While Taniyar remained in his box, Loch Style was saddled and ran in his stead

- disastrously, given that he was the 5-2 second favourite. The error was not discovered until Hollinshead returned to the unsaddling enclosure. Loch Style faded to finish

at the rear of the 11/2-mile race, not surprisingly as he was supposed to run over seven furlongs. His jockey was dismissive of his efforts. "The only way Loch Style would stay beyond a mile would be in a horse- Racing, page 13

Graham Rock on a box." said Ray Cochrane.
The Jockey Club was perplexed at Hollinshead's error. "We can't find any precedent for this, and at this stage can't comment on which rules have been breached." it said.

"I can only apologise to the people who have had a few quid on," said the 72year-old Hollinshead, who first took out a trainers' licence in 1951. He was reported to have been among those who backed the inadvertent ringer.

One man who had more than a few quid on was Philip Marshall, from Sutton-in-Ashfield, who staked 2700 with on-course book-ies. "It's a disgrace." he said. "I am hoping I will get my money back."

The high-street bookies, despite having to pay out on the race's odds-on win-ner Yougo, decided to do the decent thing. A Coral spokesman explained: "We are returning the stakes to all those punters who backed the horse they thought was Taniyar.

"We didn't see too much of our punters over Christmas so you could say we are extending the season of goodwill.

Guardian Crossword No 20,544

- 1 One of the game that's no hard worker (7) 5 Cathedral assembly getting division of work (7)
- 10 Row not right: it makes one hot and bothered (5) 11 Builder could make an
- indiscreet remark (4,1,5) 12 Sort of system a student follows after long row (6) 13 Fool to run out with infor-

mation that's merely gas? (7)

- 14 Worked round jade that's broken off (9) 16 Group tutorial? (5) 17 Critics initially at start of
- play? They're prickly (5) 19 involved tiff I'd and, being restrained (9) 23 Me a lilac? Not exactly (8)

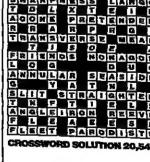
24 Unpractical DIY with a lot of

paper for one (6)

- 26 Gather bishop's included a line to go back to rep
- overseas (10) 27 It's dreadful when only half controlled (4)
- 28 Dodgers are involved with them in a game (7) 29 I need to be kept off meet if upset's to depart quickly (7)

Down

- 2 Free-range thinker? (7) 3 Horse being guided losing
- 4 Left around tangled with little knots (7) 6 Comrede at sea in good
- spirits (6) 7 Probed liar not quite cooked (but partly cooked) (9)
- 8 Avoids school, going in various directions (7) 9 Room monitors inactive among the top classes? (6,7)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,543

18 State in which there is a low count (7)

20 States could be producing strong leader perhaps (?) 21 Workers underground are left out of a number (7) 22 Shut top of the cupboard

25 Intend own benefit (5)

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